DMM Scans

Shut it and Die!!!

Zodiac P.I.™

3

Natsumi Ando

TOKYOPOP

Zodiac P.I.

Vol.3

Natsumi Ando

TOKYOPOP®

Los Angeles • Tokyo • London

File 6
The DOLL OF the GEMINI (Part 2)
十二宮でつかまえて
3

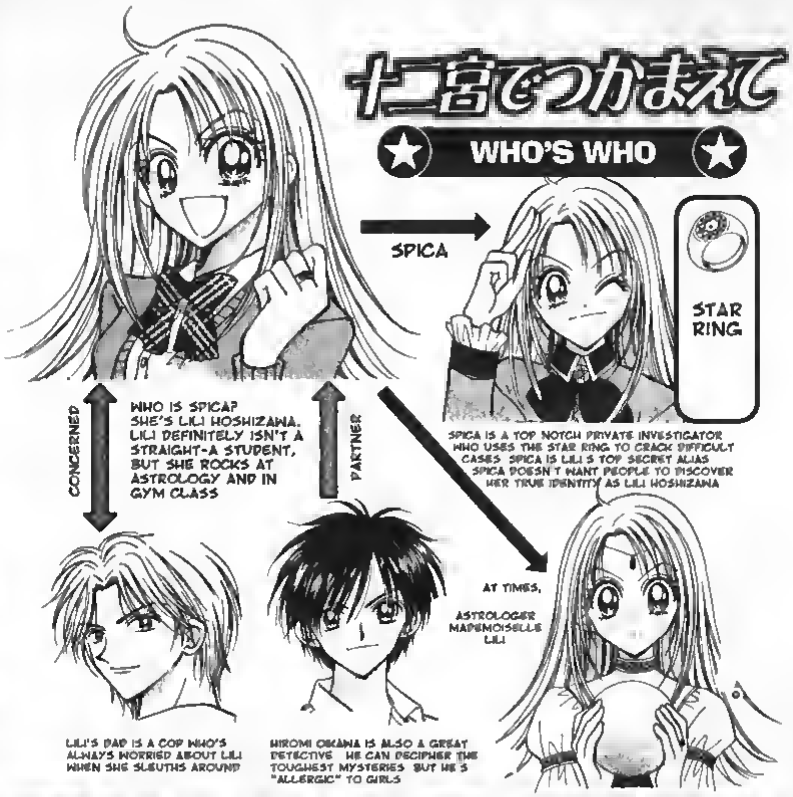
Mademoiselle Lili's Astrology (10)

What's the best career for you? It depends on your zodiac sign! Here are some of the best job matches for the different signs:

- ♈ Aries: News reporter, adventurer
- ♉ Taurus: News anchor, cook
- ♊ Gemini: Ambassador, flight attendant
- ♋ Cancer: Tour guide, restaurant owner
- ♌ Leo: Actor, lawyer
- ♍ Virgo: Secretary, writer
- ♎ Libra: Designer, beautician
- ♏ Scorpio: Doctor, waiter
- ♐ Sagittarius: Translator, publisher
- ♑ Capricorn: Teacher, politician
- ♒ Aquarius: Inventor, pilot
- ♓ Pisces: Astrologer, nurse

十二宮でつかまえて

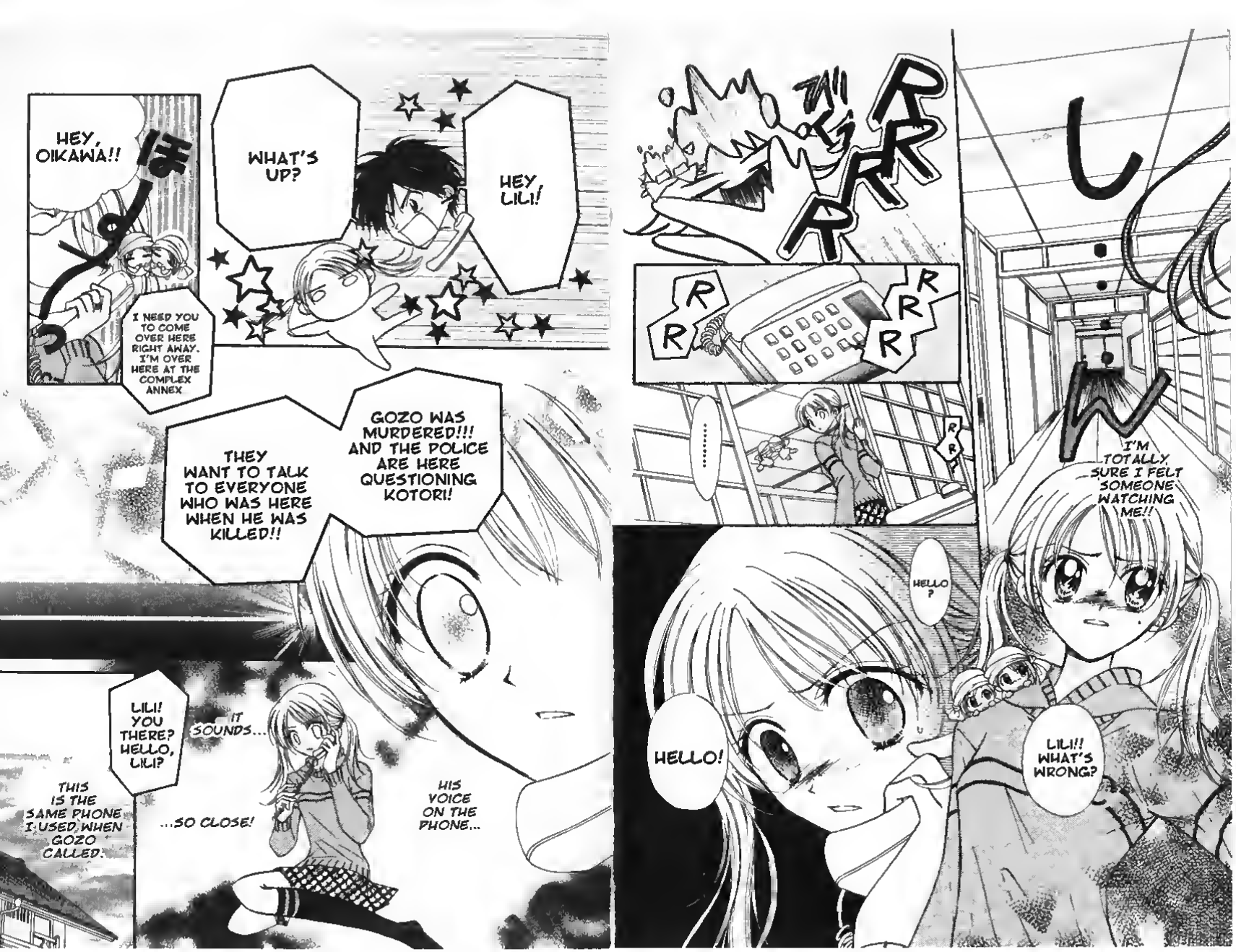
WHO'S WHO


SPICA
STAR RING
SPICA IS A TOP NOTCH PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR WHO USES THE STAR RING TO CRACK DIFFICULT CASES. SPICA IS LILI'S TOP SECRET ALIAS. SPICA DOESN'T WANT PEOPLE TO DISCOVER HER TRUE IDENTITY AS LILI HOSHIZAWA.
CONCERNED
WHO IS SPICA? SHE'S LILI HOSHIZAWA. LILI DEFINITELY ISN'T A STRAIGHT-A STUDENT, BUT SHE ROCKS AT ASTROLOGY AND IN GYM CLASS.
PARTNER
AT TIMES, ASTROLOGER MADEMOISELLE LILI
LILI'S DAD IS A COP WHO'S ALWAYS WORRIED ABOUT LILI WHEN SHE SLEUTHS AROUND.
HIROMI OKAWA IS ALSO A GREAT DETECTIVE. HE CAN DECIPHER THE TOUGHEST MYSTERIES. BUT HE'S "ALLERGIC" TO GIRLS.

- LILI IS A FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD ASTROLOGY GURU WHO WORKS FROM HOME.
- ASTRAL SPIRITS IN THE STAR RING GIVE SPICA IMPORTANT CLUES.
- KOTORI AND KOTOMI ARE A COUPLE OF HIROMI'S OLD FRIENDS.

STORY up to VOL.3

LILI AND HIROMI ARE IN KYOTO. LILI MEETS KOTORI AND KOTOMI, WHO ARE TWIN SISTERS AND HIROMI'S OLD FRIENDS. THEY'VE FOUND THEMSELVES IN THE MIDDLE OF A MURDER MYSTERY!!!


I'M TOTALLY SURE I FELT SOMEONE WATCHING ME!!
LILI!! WHAT'S WRONG?
RRRRRR
.....
HELLO?
HELLO!
HEY, OIKAWA!!
I NEED YOU TO COME OVER HERE RIGHT AWAY. I'M OVER HERE AT THE COMPLEX ANNEX
WHAT'S UP?
HEY, LILI!
GOZO WAS MURDERED!!! AND THE POLICE ARE HERE QUESTIONING KOTORI!
THEY WANT TO TALK TO EVERYONE WHO WAS HERE WHEN HE WAS KILLED!!
LILI! YOU THERE? HELLO, LILI?
IT SOUNDS...
...SO CLOSE!
HIS VOICE ON THE PHONE...
THIS IS THE SAME PHONE I USED WHEN GOZO CALLED.

EASE UP!!
SHE ALREADY SAID SHE DOESN'T REMEMBER!!
!
WHO ELSE WOULD KNOW HOW TO GET IN?
THIS WHOLE THING HAS LEFT KOTORI IN COMPLETE SHOCK!!
SO LEAVE HER ALONE!!
(IT WAS ONLY A FEW MINUTES AFTER GOZO CALLED KOTORI
- THAT GOZO'S BODY WAS FOUND.
NO, NOTHING AT ALL.
I WASN'T EVEN HERE. I WAS OUT SHOPPING.
KOTOMI, DID YOU SEE ANYONE OR ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS?

...YOU DIDN'T SEE THE ATTACKER'S FACE?
IS THAT RIGHT, KOTORI?
THEN ...
THE ATTACKER CAME UP FROM BEHIND ME!!
THERE WAS NO WAY I COULD GET A GOOD LOOK AT HIM.
NO.
NO!!
SO KOTORI, YOU'VE GOT TO REMEMBER SOMETHING ABOUT THE ATTACKER'S FACE!!
RIGHT? COME ON... DON'T YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING?
LILI!!
YES, DEFINITELY.
IT'S PRETTY EASY TO GET INTO THIS ANNEX BUILDING.
COULD ANYONE ENTER THE BUILDING?
ENTER THE MAIN PORTION THROUGH THE ANNEX? OKAY.
YOU CAN GET INTO THE MAIN PART OF THE BUILDING THROUGH THE ANNEX. IT'S NOT HARD TO DO.
Annex
Main Building
Garden
IT'S NOT LIKE THE MAIN BUILDING BECAUSE IT STICKS OUT BY ITSELF.

Thanks!

Thanks for reading Zodiac PI Volume 3♥.. This volume contains a bonus episode at the end! I hope you think it rocks too!! I was afraid the bonus episode might not get included. So I'm super happy they decided to put it in!! I'd like to express my appreciation to those who made it happen! I tend to suffer from insomnia right after my deadlines so I'm pretty zonked right now! I just wish I knew why!!!

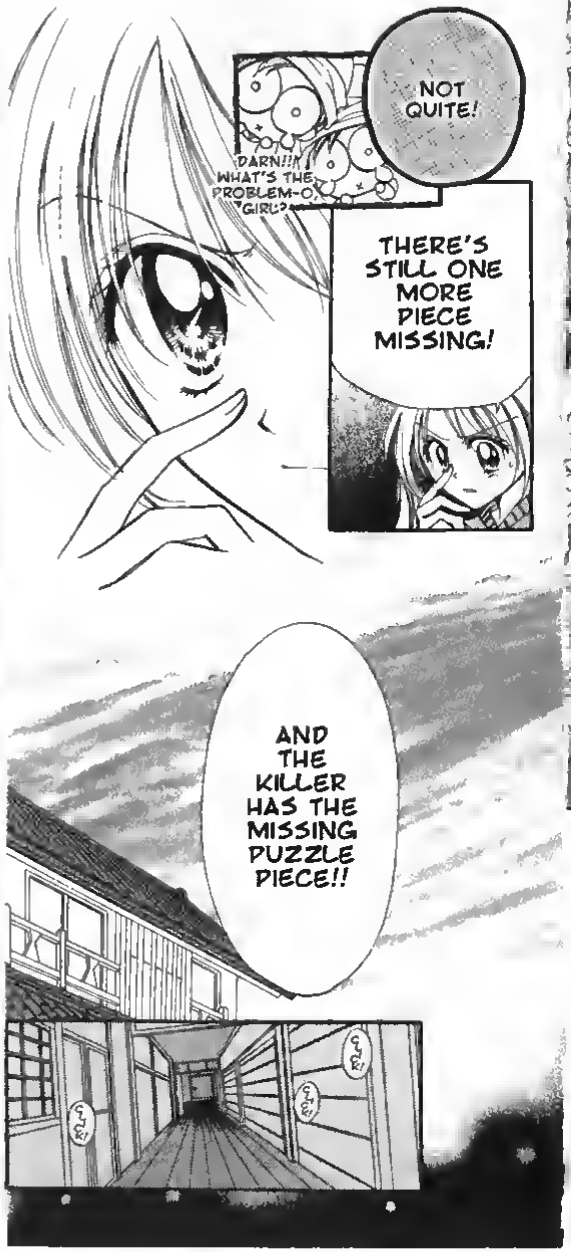
HEY ... ANY IDEA WHOSE THIS IS?
A CELL PHONE?
OH! IT'S MINE !!
WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO KILL SOMEONE WITHOUT ANYONE SEEING THE ACTION?
EXCUSE ME!
CORRIDOR?
YOU MUST HAVE DROPPED IT.
OKAY. I FOUND IT IN THE CORRIDOR THAT CONNECTS THE MAIN BUILDING TO THE ANNEX.
SO WHY WOULD SHE HAVE DROPPED IT IN THE CORRIDOR?
Corridor
Room in Annex
Locker
HMMM .. SHE MUST HAVE DROPPED IT ON THE WAY TO THE ANNEX.
WAIT A SEC!
I THOUGHT THE ATTACK HAPPENED SEVERAL FEET SHORT OF THE CORRIDOR!

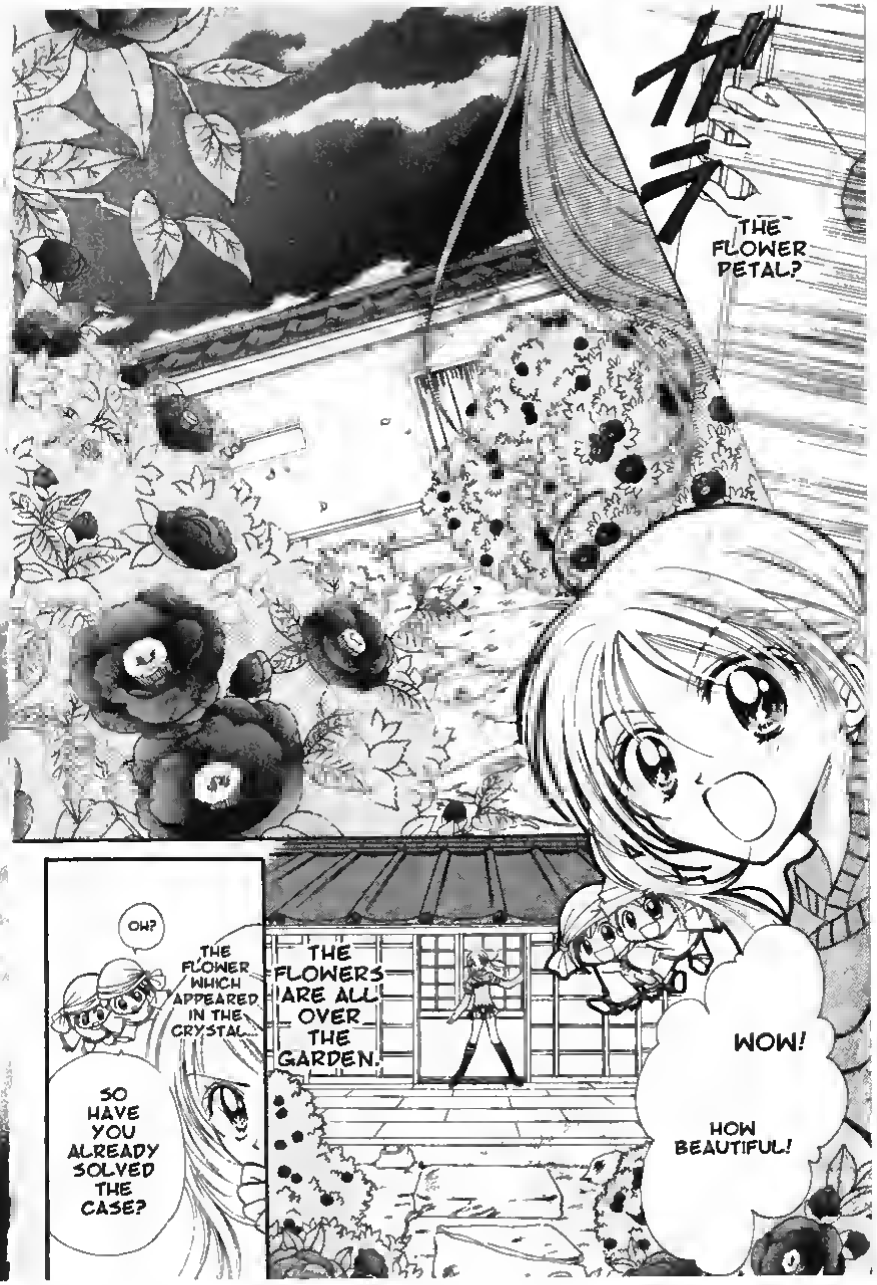
HIROMI, WHERE ARE YOU GOING!?
.....
KOTORI !!
CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT REALLY HAPPENED TO YOU THIS MORNING?
.....
HIROMI ?
WHAT!
A CALL FROM GOZO.
THE CELL PHONE WAS IN THE CORRI-DOR
AND...
HEY!!
EXCUSE ME!

すっ
ひらり
IT MUST HAVE SOME-THING TO DO WITH THE FLOWERS IN THE CRYSTAL!
YEAH, YEAH !!!
LILI!!!
IT FELL FROM KOTORI'S HAIR.
A FLOWER PETAL?
PERHAPS..
WAIT A MINUTE! I'M GOING BACK TO THE MAIN BUILDING TO CHECK ON SOMETHING!!
HEY!
LILI?

Games

By the way, I love playing video games. I just want to play them non-stop twenty-four/seven! Even when I'm supposed to be working!!! I never got into video games that much 'til I played "Kingdom Hearts." It totally hooked me!! I just love Donald Duck and his voice! ♥ It made me want to visit Disneyland!! My only disappointment is that the game does not include some of my fave stories like "Lion King" and "Jungle Book." Still though, I'm deeply touched by the "Peter Pan" part. Even better, the game made me realize how cute Winnie the Pooh is

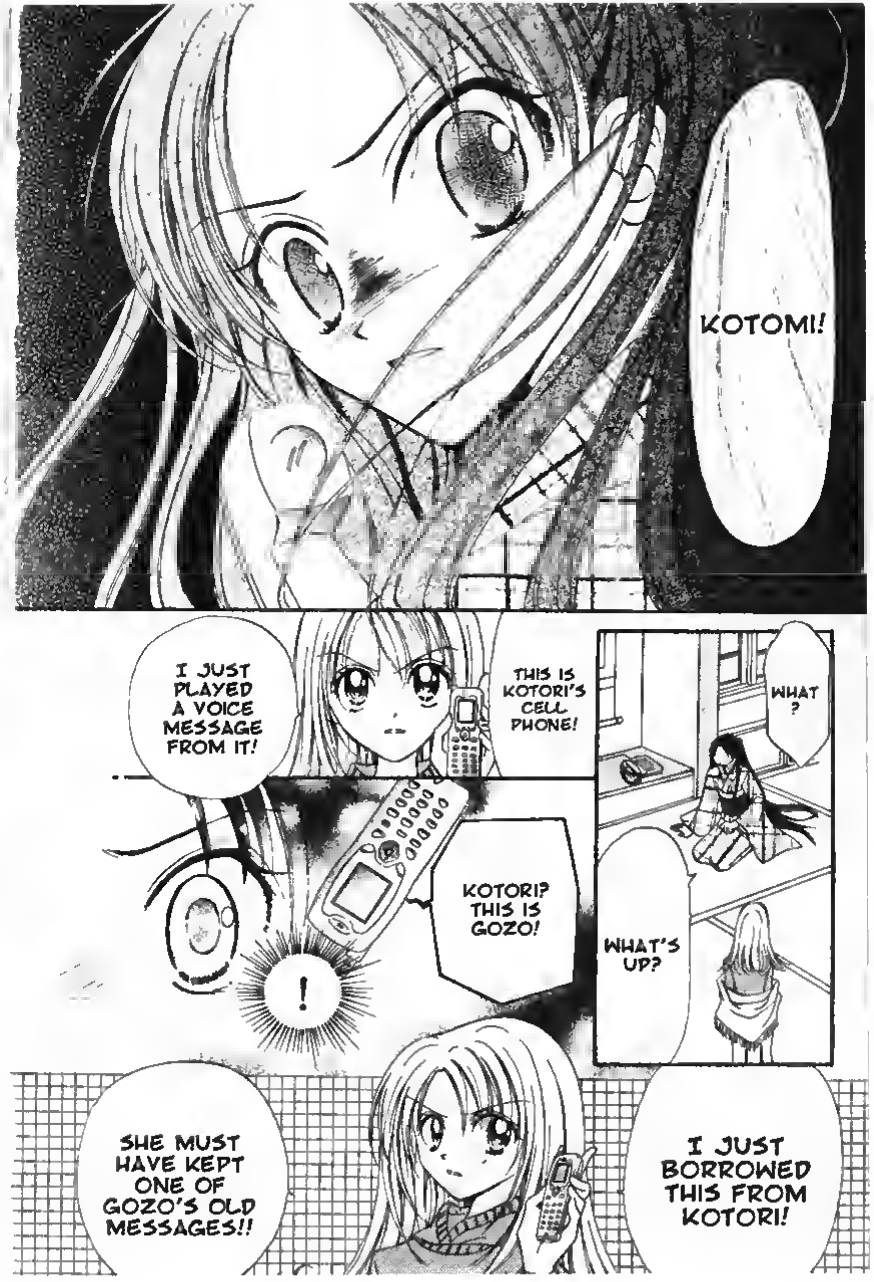



THE FLOWER PETAL?
OH?
THE FLOWER WHICH APPEARED IN THE CRYSTAL...
SO HAVE YOU ALREADY SOLVED THE CASE?
THE FLOWERS ARE ALL OVER THE GARDEN.
WOW!
HOW BEAUTIFUL!

...BUT THIS MORNING!
THAT'S THE SAME PHONE CALL I...
R
R
R
R
R
THIS IS GOZO!
AM I RIGHT?
!

I'm waiting for you in a room where you can see the beautiful flowers. From one who knows the truth of Bemm!
!

HOW ABOUT THIS SCENARIO:
RATTLE
HMMM. THE MURDERER MUST HAVE TRIED TO COME UP WITH AN ALIBI, TRYING TO COVER UP THE MURDER!
Main building
Annex
THE MURDERER PRETENDED TO LEAVE THE MAIN BUILDING...
BUT THEN CAME BACK.
THEN THE KILLER MUST HAVE PRETENDED TO COME BACK THROUGH THE GARDEN!
I HEARD HIS VOICE ON THE PHONE...
...WHICH WOULD IMPLY GOZO DIED SOMETIME AFTER MAKING THE PHONE CALL!
BUT WASN'T GOZO ALREADY DEAD WHEN THE CALL WAS MADE?
...IN ORDER TO MAKE EVERYONE BELIEVE GOZO MADE THE PHONE CALL BEFORE HE DIED.
KOTORI? THIS IS GOZO!
...AND PLAYED GOZO'S VOICE MESSAGE...
FROM THERE, SHE CALLED THE ANNEX...
...PERHAPS BRINGING BACK SOMETHING TO EAT AS A SOUVENIR.
ALL SHE HAD TO DO AFTER THAT WAS COME BACK TO THE BUILDING LATER, PRETENDING SHE WASN'T HERE WHEN THE MURDER TOOK PLACE...


KOTOMI!
I JUST PLAYED A VOICE MESSAGE FROM IT!
THIS IS KOTORI'S CELL PHONE!
KOTORI? THIS IS GOZO!
!
WHAT?
WHAT'S UP?
SHE MUST HAVE KEPT ONE OF GOZO'S OLD MESSAGES!!
I JUST BORROWED THIS FROM KOTORI!

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS...
KOTORI DIDN'T KILL GOZO?!
THEN WHO IN THE WORLD...
...COMMITTED THE CRIME?
IT'S...
...CLOSED OFF BY THE IVY THAT'S GROWN OVER
TOO BAD FOR YOU! THAT GATE HASN'T BEEN OPENED FOR A LONG TIME.
SO ENOUGH WITH YOUR PLAYING DETECTIVE, OKAY?

HOW COME...
...YOU ALSO HARMED KOTORI?
BUT...
...THERE'S ONE THING I CAN'T FIGURE OUT YET.
YOU TALK LIKE I'M THE MURDERER.
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I ENTERED THE GARDEN FROM THAT GATE?
HUH?

THE EXACT SAME SMELL I NOTICED THE FIRST TIME I MET KOTORI.
THAT...
...SMELL.
THAT WAS...
PERHAPS... THE KOTORI I SAW THIS MORNING WAS...
NO.
B... BUT...
I DIDN'T SMELL IT WHEN I SAW KOTORI IN THE ANNEX THIS MORNING.

KOTOMI ...
...WAS THAT YOU?
WHAT ?
YOU COULD EASILY ENTER THE COMPLEX...
... THROUGH THE ANNEX, RIGHT?
THEN, AFTER PRETENDING TO GO OUT, YOU CAME BACK TO THE ANNEX AND DRESSED UP AS KOTORI.
NO ONE COULD TELL YOU FROM YOUR TWIN SISTER, KOTORI, ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU WORE THE GEISHA MAKE-UP AND COSTUME.
THEN THE REAL KOTORI ...
...PLACED A CALL AND PLAYED GOZO'S VOICE MESSAGE.
THEN YOU SWITCHED ROLES WITH THE REAL KOTORI....
...SO NO ONE WOULD SUSPECT...
...KOTORI IS DEEPLY INVOLVED IN THE CASE.
PERHAPS
THE ONE WHO KILLED GOZO IS
KOTO !!
YOU HURT KOTORI AND STARTED A HUGE FLAP OVER THIS...
...TO ENACT THE PERFECT CRIME.
NO ONE WILL EVER FIND OUT IF YOU KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT!
!

BUT WE DO HAVE EVIDENCE...
...KOTOMI.
O...
OKAWA.
W... WHAT?
THE JAPANESE HAIRPIN.
KOTORI ALWAYS WEARS

AFTER ALL, YOUR EVIDENCE IS BASICALLY BOGUS!

W-WHY DID YOU SAY THAT?
.....
KOTORI ...
THAT MORNING...
...GOZO CAME TO MY ROOM AS USUAL...
KOTORI!
KOTORI, DIE WITH ME, PLEASE!
G...GOZO?!
...HER WEAPON.

HER... HAIRPIN!
GEISHAS CHANGE THEIR HAIRPINS EACH MONTH.
THEY WEAR ONE OF PINE, BAMBOO, AND PLUM IN JANUARY.
BUT KOTOMI PUT ON WISTERIA WHEN SHE DRESSED UP AS A GEISHA...
THAT'S THE HAIRPIN FOR MAY!
!
THE REASON KOTORI LET KOTOMI USE EVERYTHING BUT THE HAIRPIN IS BECAUSE...
...SHE KNEW IF SOMEONE BROKE KOTOMI'S COVER THEY'D REALIZE KOTOMI KILLED GOZO.
...BECAUSE THE HAIRPIN WAS...

KOTOMI...
THAT'S WHY...
I WANT KOTORI TO...
...I CAME UP WITH THE IDEA OF HOW TO COVER UP HER CRIME!
...ACHIEVE HER GOAL OF BECOMING A FULL-FLEDGED GEISHA BY ANY MEANS.
BUT...
.....
YOU CAN'T MOVE PEOPLE WITH YOUR DANCE LIKE YOU DID THE FIRST TIME I SAW YOU PERFORM.
...IF YOU TRY TO HIDE YOUR CRIME AND FEEL SINFUL FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE...
THEN...
...WHILE WE WERE WRESTLING...
THEY FOUND OUT I EMBEZZLED MONEY FROM THE COMPANY.
IT'S ALL OVER FOR ME NOW.
COME WITH ME... PLEASE!
GOZO, STOP IT!
NO WAY.
...JUST BECAUSE OF THAT SCUM.
I COULDN'T HANDLE SEEING KOTORI'S DREAM GOING DOWN THE DRAIN...
...HE WAS JUST SO PERSISTENT AND WANTING TO BUG KOTORI ALL THE TIME...
...I EVEN THREATENED HIM WITH THE DOLL TO WARN HIM.

I DID WHAT I HAD TO DO...
...DON'T BE SILLY.
...TO PROTECT MY ONLY SISTER.
I'D LOVE TO SEE KOTORI DANCE LIKE THAT AGAIN.
AGAIN...
SORRY TO PUT YOU THROUGH THIS, KOTOMI.
I'M SO SORRY
D...
THAT'S RIGHT, I GUESS

BUT PERHAPS ANOTHER LOVE WILL WORK OUT...
WHAT?
...YOUR LOVE WISH WILL COME TRUE.
IF YOU CAN TIE THEM TOGETHER WITHOUT LOOSENING THE TWIST OF PAPER STRIP...
MINE DIDN'T COME TRUE...
HEY!!
...WITH YOU, LILI.
HOW COME ...
...YOU'RE BLUSHING, OIKAWA?
I... I DON'T... ERRRGH

KOTORI TOLD THE POLICE WHAT REALLY HAPPENED THAT MORNING.
YEP TOTALLY
IT'S GREAT TO SEE ANOTHER CASE SOLVED
WELL, THEN.
AND I'M SURE...
...KOTORI WILL BE A FINE GEISHA ONE DAY.
YOU MEAN THIS ?
IT'S A FORM OF FORTUNE-TELLING GEISHAS DO.
KOTORI TOLD ME ABOUT IT.
HEY...
WHAT'S THAT IN YOUR HAND?
SHE SURE WILL. SHE'S AN AMAZING DANCER
YEAH. I THINK SO, TOO

SPRING
SPRING HAS COME!
I'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU AT ORIHIME PARK AT 5:00 TOMORROW!!
DEAR LILI HOSHIZAWA,
I'VE BEEN IN LOVE WITH YOU, THE ONE SO CHEERFUL AND HONEST.
Dear Lili Hoshizawa,
I'LL MOVE TO A FARAWAY PLACE IN A FEW DAYS.
I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU BEFORE I GO.
MS HOSHI-ZAWA!
OH MY!!
COUGH

YEP. ♡
HE MUST HAVE SECRETLY PUT IT INSIDE MY NOTEBOOK.
'HE' BEING SOME SHY PRINCE WHO MUST BE TOTALLY IN LOVE WITH ME.
BUT LOVE LETTERS ARE SO TWENTY YEARS AGO.
A LOVE LETTER?
Pi
WHAT? WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

Mademoiselle Lili's Astrology (11)

Sagittarius ♐

Chiron, who was half-horse, half-human, was a respectable scholar. One day he was hit by a poisoned arrow and suffered from a great deal of pain. Zeus saw him agonizing over it and raised him up into the sky. Sagittarius is liberal and tries to strive toward her ideals. Everyone likes her because she is cheerful and optimistic. She is ultra-outgoing too!! Meanwhile, a Sagittarius boy loves cheerful girls. He tends to be most interested in someone with a strong will.

十二宮でつかまえて

★File 7★

A LOVE LETTER FROM SIRIUS (Part 1)

(前編)

FROM SIRIUS

Pi
Pi
Pi
Pi
YOUR CELL PHONE!
I GUESS THAT MEANS YOU MUST HAVE ANOTHER CASE.
SUBJECT: TO SPICA
FLIP
YUP, IT'S TO SPICA.
I NEED YOUR HELP, SPICA!
A STUDENT IS MISSING FROM MY SCHOOL.
BEFORE SHE DISAPPEARED SHE RECEIVED A LOVE LETTER. THE SAME LETTER CAME TO ME.
A LOVE LETTER?
THAT MEANS I COULD BE THE NEXT VICTIM...
I LOVE YOU
I WANT TO KEEP YOU ALL TO MYSELF
THE LETTER SAYS...
"I LOVE YOU...
...I WANT TO KEEP YOU ALL TO MYSELF."
SIRIUS?
THAT SIRIUS?
THE ONE WHO CHALLENGED SPICA THE OTHER DAY?
WHAT'S THE NAME OF THE SCHOOL?
DOES IT SAY?
Y..
...YEAH
FROM KAORI TACHIBANA,
ORIHIME GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL.
HMMM.. ORIHIME
THAT SCHOOL'S CLOSE TO THE PARK WHERE I'M SUPPOSED TO MEET THE SENDER OF MY LOVE LETTER

THANKS!
THERE.
YOU'RE WELCOME. ♡
HEY, LILI.

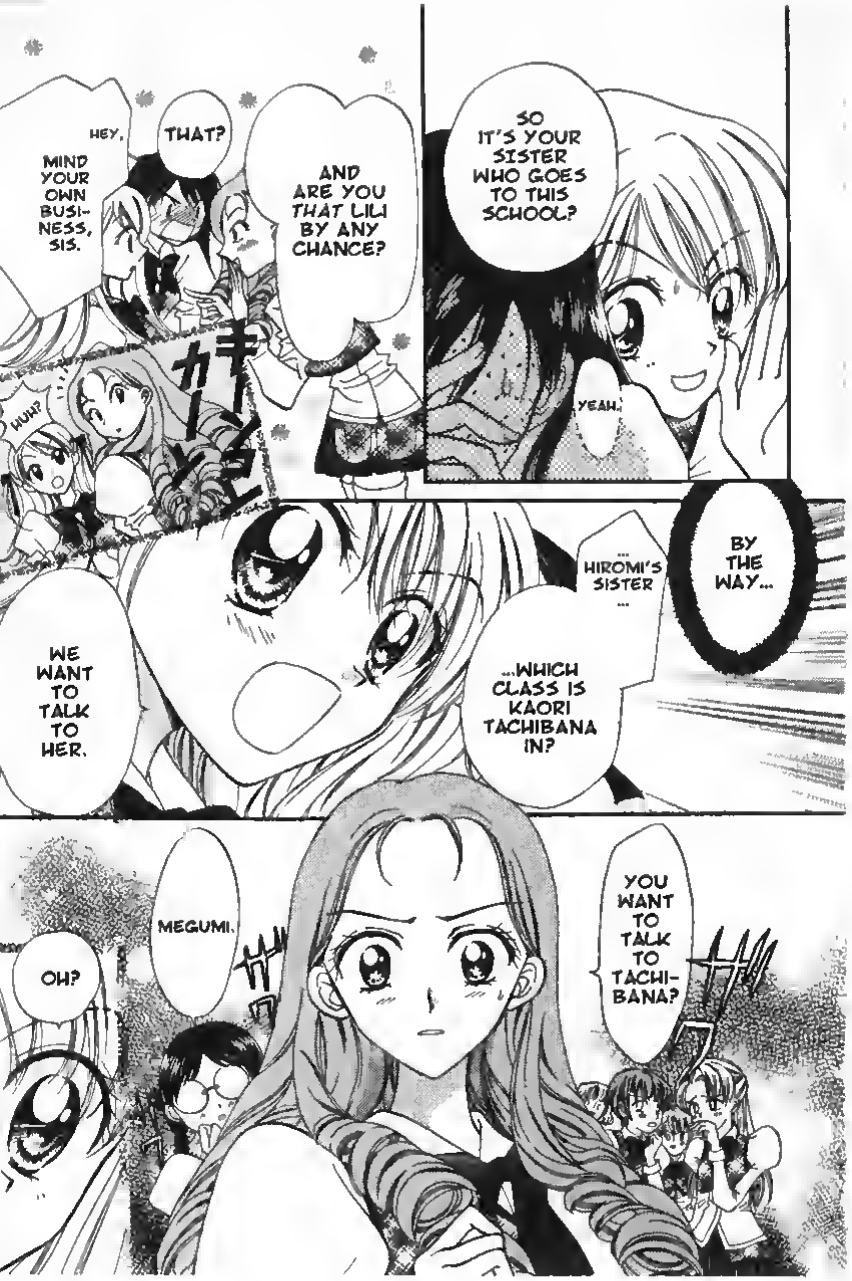
...I KNOW SOMEONE WHO GOES THERE.
YEAH.
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE SCHOOL, OIKAWA?
O... ORIHIME GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL
Orihime Girls' High School
A huge institution that includes elementary, junior high and senior high schools with 5300 students.
It's very liberal and laid back. Should be easy to sneak into.
OOPS!

ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT OIKAWA?!
LOOK AT THAT GIRL! ISN'T SHE PRETTY?
YEAH, SUPER BEAUTIFUL!
SUCH LONG LEGS!
SO TALL!
HUH?
OH MY GOODNESS. I'M ALREADY POPULAR AMONG THE GIRLS HERE?
ANYHOW ...
...WHICH CLASS IS SHE IN? YOU KNOW WHICH GIRL I MEAN.
I AM GOING TO REVEAL THE IDENTITY OF SIRIUS...
...BY FIVE O'CLOCK TODAY !!!
W-WHY DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?
I WANT TO ASK IF SHE KNOWS ABOUT KAORI TACHIBANA ...
..TO GET MORE INFO--AND CLUES-- TO SOLVE THIS CASE.

WHY DO I HAVE TO SNEAK INTO THE ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL, TOO?
YEP, HIRO, ONLY BECAUSE YOU LOOK SO PRETTY IN THE UNIFORM. ♡
...NO ONE WILL KNOW WE SNUCK IN AMONG ALL THE STUDENTS.
..WELL, SHOOT! MY LEGS LOOK PRETTY DARN HOT!
YOU'RE DARN RIGHT, BUT...
AND I MEAN, WELL, YOU'RE EAGER TO SOLVE THE CASE TOO, AREN'T YOU?

ばっ
ばっ
ばっ
...LOOK SO FAMILIAR ...
ギッ
YOU...
.....
ちゅう
!
AH!!!

I WONDER WHAT KIND OF MAN MY PRINCE IS.
UMMN, WHY DON'T YOU FORGET ROMANCE FOR NOW. 'KAY?
HEY ...
...YOU TWO THERE
YOU'RE ATTRACTING A LOT OF ATTENTION AROUND HERE. WHICH CLASS ARE YOU BOTH IN?
OH MY GOD!
THAT'S MEGUMI ...
...AS BEAUTIFUL AS USUAL
THIS IS ALL SO GIRLS' SCHOOL — IT'S TOO MUCH
OH?


HEY, MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS, SIS.
THAT?
AND ARE YOU THAT LILI BY ANY CHANCE?
SO IT'S YOUR SISTER WHO GOES TO THIS SCHOOL?
YEAH.
カキーン
HUH?
BY THE WAY...
...HIROMI'S SISTER...
...WHICH CLASS IS KAORI TACHIBANA IN?
WE WANT TO TALK TO HER.
OH?
MEGUMI.
YOU WANT TO TALK TO TACHIBANA?

SIS!!!
YOU SURE ARE HIROMI.
LILI
SIS...
THAT'S HIS...
SIS...
OH, NAUGHTY ME! I'M SUCH A SINFUL SISTER OF YOURS!
THANKS FOR FREAKING OUT ON MY LOOKS!
NO!
SISTER?!
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU MADE SUCH A CUTE CROSS-DRESSER.
OH MY GOSH, HIROMI...

MR. IZUMI
HEY, YOU'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CHEMISTRY LECTURE, HERE.
PONG
DID YOU PAY ATTENTION TO WHAT I SAID ABOUT TODAY'S EXPERIMENT?
W... WELL...
THE REACTION AT THE ANODE IS 2CL- -CL2 + 2-. THEREFORE THE GAS GENERATED IS CHLORIDE. THE CHARACTERISTICS OF CHLORIDE ARE PUNGENT ODOR, BLEACHING AND ANTISEPTIC EFFECTS, AND IT'S READILY SOLUBLE IN WATER...
WE'RE GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT KIND OF GAS IS PRODUCED FROM THE ANODE DURING ELECTROLYSIS OF HYDROCHLORIC ACID.
NOW THIS IS AN HONEST-TO-GOODNESS GIRLS' SCHOOL
EVEN THE TEACHER IS GOOD LOOKING.
MEGUMI, YOU ARE SO LUCKY KYAAA!!
I WILL. PROMISE
IN ANY CASE, CUT OUT THE TALKING AND START LISTENING DURING CLASS.

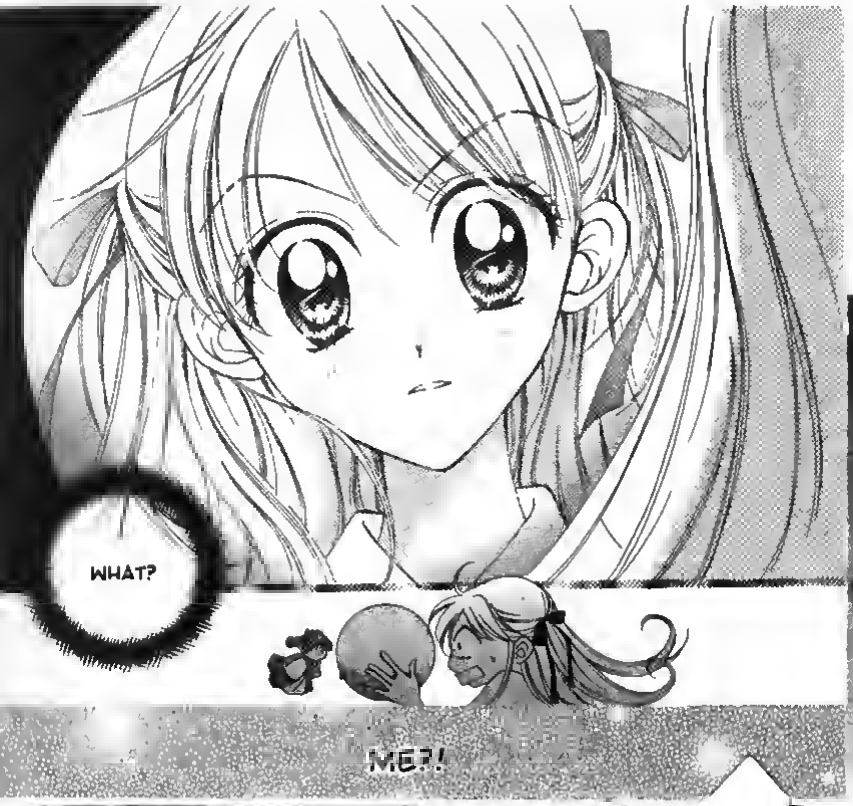
SHE'S BEEN MISSING SINCE YESTERDAY?
BE QUIET ABOUT IT. WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF CLASS.
PSSST
BUT THAT'S WHAT WE WERE TOLD.
SHE DIDN'T COME TO SCHOOL TODAY EITHER.
WHO'S THE FIRST?
YUMI SAKAGUCHI, A FRESHMAN IN CLASS TSUKI.
SHE DISAPPEARED TWO DAYS AGO.
HMMM TWO STUDENTS MISSING
RIGHT, YUKIJI?
LOOKS LIKE THE POLICE WERE HERE EARLIER.
TWO STUDENTS ARE MISSING SO FAR.

Kaori Tachibana
Data of Birth: April 27th 1986
Sign: Taurus
Blood type: Type O
Class: Senior , Class Yuki, #19
Club: Art club
Phone: 03-xxxx-xxxx
Address: 10000-3 Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo
Family info: ---------
THEY'RE IN DIFFERENT GRADES AND HAVE DIFFERENT CLASS ID NUMBERS.
Yuai Sakaguchi
Data of Birth: November 30th 1988
Sign: Sagittarius
Blood type: Type AB
Class: Freshman, Class Tsuki, #11
Club: Tennis club
Phone: 03-xxxx-xxxx
Address: 3-3 Tani Setagaya-ku, Tokyo
Family info: ---------
NOTHING IN COMMON. GREAT.
THE CLUBS THEY BELONG TO, THE AREAS THEY LIVE IN... ABSOLUTELY NOTHING.
HOW ABOUT THEIR BIRTH DAYS?
Yumi Sakaguchi
November 30th, 1988
Sagittarius
Kaori Tachibana
April 27th, 1986
Taurus
I WAS HOPING TO FIND SOME CLUES AT SCHOOL.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT CONNECTS THESE GIRLS TO SIRIUS.
THIS DOESN'T GIVE ME ANY KIND OF CLUE.

キーンコーンカーンコーン
Computer Lab
AND KAORI TACHIBANA, SENIOR IN CLASS YUKI.
YUMI SAKA-GUCHI, FRESHMAN IN CLASS TSUKI...
ALTHOUGH I'VE BEEN DIGGING THROUGH THE STUDENTS' DATABASE...
...I HAVEN'T FOUND ANYTHING THE TWO HAD IN COMMON BETWEEN THEM.
BOTH GIRLS GOT LOVE LETTERS FROM SIRIUS...
...AND DISAPPEARED.

...COME OUT OF THE RING!
COME ON!
W...WAIT FOR ME, PLEASE!
CHIRON
OF SAGITT-ARIUS
...IO OF TAURUS...
ANSWER YOUR MASTER AND...
NO CLUE HERE, HUH?
WHAT'S ALL THAT FUSS?
キョロ
キョロ
IN THIS CASE...
...I'VE GOT TO BREAK OUT THE BIG GUN!

HO!
LONG TIME...
...NO SEE.
HI, MASTER!
...TODAY?
...YOU...
...HELP...
...CAN WE...
HOW
MASTER?
DIDN'T YOU SEE THE WHOLE THING FROM INSIDE THE RING, IO?
YOU CAN BE SUCH AN IDIOT SOMETIMES!
IO, THE TAURUS, IS SO SLOW IT WILL TAKE HER AN ENTIRE DAY BEFORE SHE FINALLY GETS DOWN TO BUSINESS.
SLOW?!
OF COURSE!
YOU WANT US TO CAST THEIR HOROSCOPES FOR THE DAY THEY DISAPPEARED, RIGHT?
THERE YOU GO. CHIRON, YOU WERE QUICK ON THE UPTAKE, AS USUAL.
I NEED TO CAST HER HOROSCOPE FOR THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY
I'M GOING TO DEAL WITH YUMI SAKAGUCHI, BORN ON THE 31ST OF NOVEMBER.
YOU HAVE KAORI TACHIBANA, BORN ON THE 27TH OF APRIL.
DO HER HOROSCOPE FOR YESTERDAY!


WHAT?
ME?!

AAAH...
HOW ABOUT CHIRON'S FORE-CAST?
THE SAME

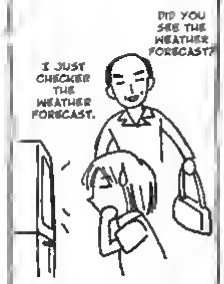
WHY IN THE WORLD IS THE KEY TO SOLVING THIS CASE ME?!
W... WHY?
LUCK?

OUT OF MY WAY, MEANIE. LET ME CAST FIRST!!
UH OH. YOU MADE IO UPSET BECAUSE YOU'RE SO IMPATIENT, SAGITTARIUS. IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT.
GUIDED BY THE RULING PLANET AND THE SUN...
...IO SERVES THE OWNER OF THE STAR RING.
KAORI TACHIBANA, THE TAURUS. AND THE HOROSCOPE FOR YESTERDAY BEGINS..
...AND WHAT REVEALS THE TRUTH OF THE DAY IS...
YOU ARE TERRIFIED BY AN INVISIBLE SHADOW ALL DAY...

3

My Dad

My dad loves weather forecasts. He always comes home talking about



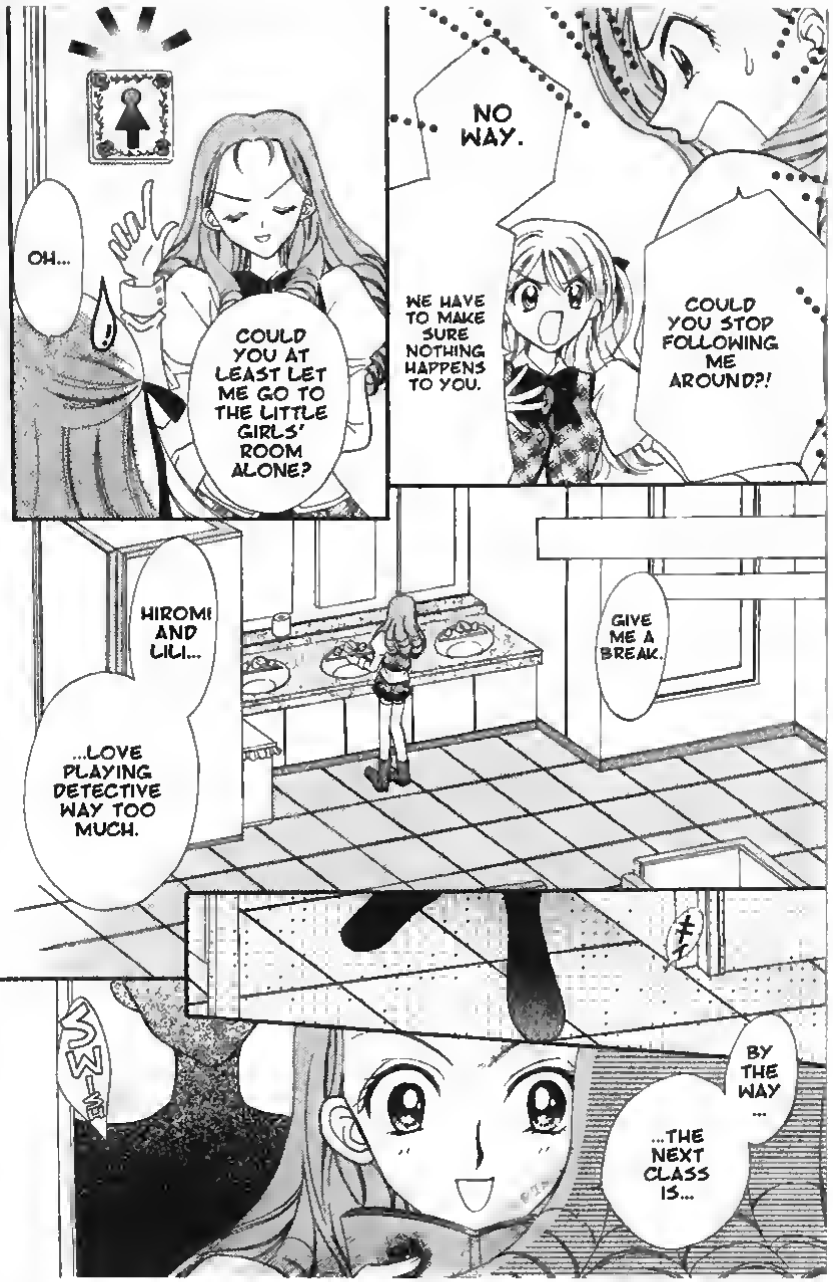
He even checks the weather forecast several times throughout the day even though I think it pretty much stays the same. Is there something I'm missing? Anyway, the other day my dad's company got new computers. And he goes

I mean, he doesn't go out, or even go out the next day or anything, but he always checks the forecast anyway. I wonder why.

WHAT'S GOING ON?!
LILI!
LISTEN!! MY SISTER JUST GOT...
...A LOVE LETTER FROM SIRIUS...
Dear Megumi Oikawa
I love you. I want to keep you all to myself.
From Sirius
THE THIRD GIRL TO RECEIVE THE LETTER...

THERE ARE SO MANY GIRLS WHO GET MAD BECAUSE I'M PRETTY.
THAT'S NOT EXACTLY THE KIND OF ANSWER I'M LOOKING FOR.
I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT THE LETTER.
NO LOSER CAN TOUCH ME!
B... BUT, SIS!
I WILL BE...
HO
HO
HO
HO
ALL RIGHT
WHAT?
IT'S...
.....
LOVE LETTERS ... ARE SOMETHING ROMANTIC. THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO MAKE PEOPLE HAPPY...
SIRIUS IS USING THEM TO THREATEN PEOPLE.
IT'S UNFORGIVABLE.
I CAN'T FORGIVE SUCH AN EVIL ACT!!!
WE MAY NOT HAVE ANY CLUES YET...
BUT I'LL DEFINITELY...
DEFINITELY
...CATCH SIRIUS. COUNT ON IT.
EXCUSE ME, YOU TWO.

THE PRINCE WHO SENT ME THE LOVE LETTER IS A REAL ONE ♡
SURE HE IS.
YOU TALKING ABOUT YOUR APPOINT-MENT AT ORIHIME PARK?
THREE MORE HOURS 'TIL 5 O'CLOCK.
I SWEAR I'M GONNA ROUGH HIM UP SOMEDAY.

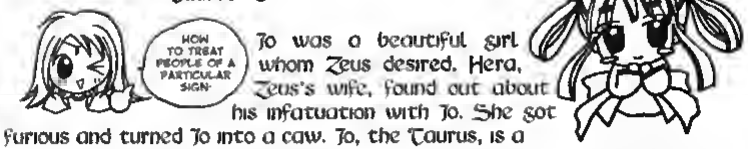

OH...
COULD YOU AT LEAST LET ME GO TO THE LITTLE GIRLS' ROOM ALONE?
NO WAY.
WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE NOTHING HAPPENS TO YOU.
COULD YOU STOP FOLLOWING ME AROUND?!
HIROMI AND LILI...
...LOVE PLAYING DETECTIVE WAY TOO MUCH.
GIVE ME A BREAK.
BY THE WAY ...
...THE NEXT CLASS IS...

BY THE WAY...
...HOW COME MEGUMI HASN'T COME OUT YET?
No Sitting Down In The Hallway.
DUNNO.
MEGUMI ?
M...
MEGUMI!!
SIS!!
OIKAWA, LOOK AT THIS!!
THAT'S HER STUDENT HANDBOOK.
MEMO
NO WAY.
NOT MY SISTER!!!
MEGUMI GOT...
...KIDNAPPED BY SIRIUS TOO?!

HEY, LILI!
CHECK THIS OUT.
I CAN'T BELIEVE MEGUMI IS GONE NOW TOO.
LOOK AT THOSE DRAGGING MARKS OUTSIDE, THE ONES BY THE WINDOW.
MAYBE MY SISTER WAS...
!
WAIT A SEC, LILI.
ばっ
SHE WAS DRAGGED OUT OF THE BUILDING BY SIRIUS.

Mademoiselle Lili's Astrology (12)

Taurus ♉



Io was a beautiful girl whom Zeus desired. Hera, Zeus's wife, found out about his infatuation with Io. She got furious and turned Io into a cow. Io, the Taurus, is a gentle soul who is very affectionate. She perseveres in her efforts and always keeps herself on track. Her ultimate goal is to have a family which gives her comfort and peace. The Taurus boys tend to have a roving eye. If you confess love to him, will that be enough?! His type is a small, feminine girl.

十二宮でつかまえて

★File 7 (ファイル)★

A LOVE LETTER FROM SIRIUS (Part 2)

(後編)

!
LIKE... SHE WAS TRYING TO LEAVE US A CLUE.
PLUS THE BOOK WAS FOUND OPEN WITH THE TORN PAGE FACING UP.
PERHAPS MEGUMI IS TRYING TO TELL US SOME-THING!
THE FACT THAT IT'S ONE OF THE TIME SCHEDULE PAGES BUGS ME.
...IS TORN OFF...
THE FIRST PERIOD ON FRIDAY...
Class 3
ELEC-TIVE ?!
YEAH ...
YOU GET TO PICK A SUBJECT YOU LIKE FROM SEVERAL CHOICES.
AND HER FIRST PERIOD ON FRIDAY IS ELECTIVE.

DOES SIRIUS REALLY HAVE A HAND IN THIS?
HUH?
WELL, IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE SIRIUS, AT LEAST NOT THE ONE WHO CHALLENGED SPICA BEFORE.
THE TACTICS ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
IT'S CLOSE TO IMPOSSIBLE FOR A WOMAN TO KIDNAP MEGUMI DURING SUCH A SHORT TIME.
MEMO
BESIDES ...
...ABOUT THE STUDENT HANDBOOK MY SISTER DROPPED...
...IN AN UNUSUAL WAY.
THE UPPER CORNER IS RIPPED OFF...

New Experience

A friend of mine, who always has to be trying something new, took me horseback riding. I only rode for half an hour but my body was sore all over the next day. I think I took horseback riding way too lightly. I realize now it's a true sport that requires a lot of physical strength. I was much higher up in the air than I expected to be on the back of the horse. Even a basic trot was so bumpy it shook my butt all over. The horse I rode was called "Ryoma" and someone told me he loves girls. Any female rider on his back makes him happy. But he seemed very stubborn to me. Perhaps he didn't know I was a female?! I'll be so bummed if that's true.

Yumi Sakaguchi	Chemistry
Kaori Tachibana	Chemistry
Megumi Oikawa	Chemistry

Computer Lab
WAIT!
THAT'S IT!
OIKAWA ?!
WE CAN PROBABLY FIND OUT WHAT THE THREE WHO DISAPPEARED HAVE IN COMMON NOW.
MY SIS WOULDN'T LET ANYONE KIDNAP HER SO EASILY.
"FIRST PERIOD ON FRIDAY" IS THE KEY TO SOLVING THE CASE. SHE LEFT THE ANSWER FOR US.
YOU SURE?
Search
Yumi Sakaguchi
Kaori Tachibana
Megumi Oikawa
Electives
CLICK
THE COMMON DENOMINATOR BETWEEN THE THREE IS...
THIS IS IT!

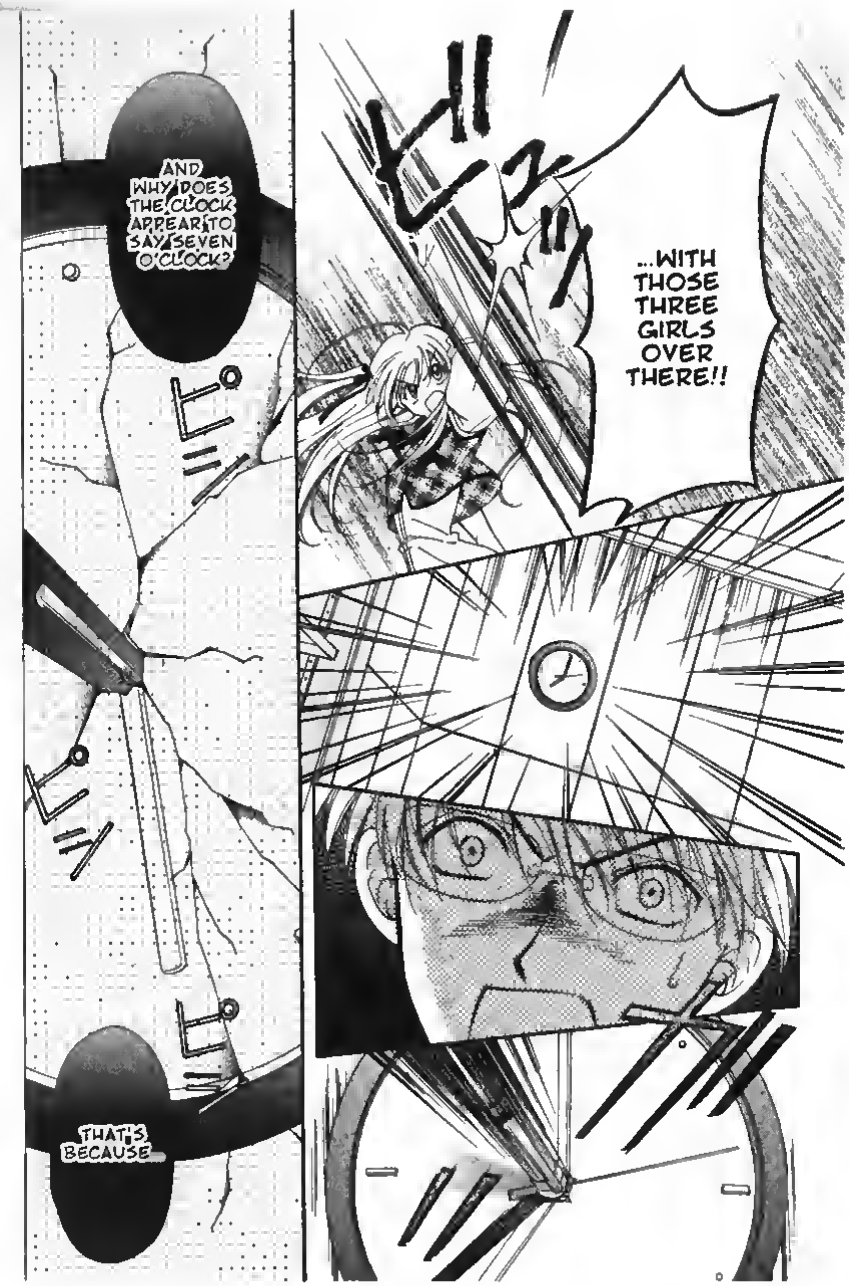
..THERE?
IS SOME-ONE...
WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING HERE?
AAH!!

MASTER!
YOU HAVE ONLY ONE HOUR LEFT 'TIL YOUR APPOINTMENT.
DON'T SHOW UP ALL OF A SUDDEN!
NOW, IF WE COULD ONLY FIND SOME MORE CLUES.
THIS IS WHERE ALL THE CHEM-ISTRY CLASSES ARE TAUGHT
Preparatory room
RUTTLE
WHAT'S ...
...THAT NOISE?
W...

.....
I MEAN, WELL, IT'S JUST A BORING PREPARATORY ROOM.
AND I HAVE TO GRADE SOME TESTS RIGHT NOW. SO COULD YOU JUST PLEASE LEAVE ME ALONE?
B... BUT ...
THIS GUY IS
...MR. IZUMI, THE CHEMISTRY TEACHER...
STUDENTS AREN'T SUPPOSED TO COME IN HERE WITHOUT MY PERMISSION!
EXCUSE ME, BUT I HEARD SOME STRANGE NOISE FROM THE PREPARATORY ROOM.
MIND IF I CHECK THEM OUT BEFORE I GO?
NO! ABSO-LUTELY NOT!
YOU NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE RIGHT NOW!
I'M SURE HE'S HIDING SOME-THING.
THAT WAY HE ACTED...
BUT WE NEED MORE DEFINITE EVIDENCE!
MAYBE WE CAN FIND IT IN THE RESTROOM WHERE MY SISTER DISAPPEARED.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS?
FOUR-THIRTY.
YOU STILL HAVE HALF AN HOUR 'TIL FIVE.
I SEE. COOL.
OKAWA ?

T...
THIS IS...
MYSELF!
LIL!
?
I GET IT!
I FOUND OUT... WHERE MEGUMI IS.
I KNOW!
!
CALM DOWN, MASTER.
YOU HAVE OTHER CLUES, LIKE THE IMAGE YOU SAW IN THE CRYSTALS.
あ〜ん
WITHOUT SOME OTHER CLUES, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO SOLVE THE CASE, MUCH LESS MAKE AN APPOINTMENT AT FIVE.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THAT STUFF IS USELESS.
MY....
DARN IT.
ALL I SAW IN THERE WAS MYSELF.

THE CLOCK IS THE...
...CLUE
Chemistry Lab
A STUDENT WHO DOES AS POORLY AS THIS IN MY CLASS...
...NEEDS TO BE PUNISHED
Chemistry Test
32/100
WHAT A HORRIBLE GRADE.
SO ARE YOU GOING TO SEND HER A LOVE LETTER?
MR. IZUMI!
WHA...
WHAT ARE YOU TWO...
...TALKING ABOUT?


AND WHY DOES THE CLOCK APPEAR TO SAY SEVEN O'CLOCK?
THAT'S BECAUSE...
...WITH THOSE THREE GIRLS OVER THERE!!

IT'S ALREADY FIVE O'CLOCK. WHY DON'T YOU TWO GO HOME?
FIVE O'CLOCK?
THAT'S WEIRD.
!
BECAUSE THE CLOCK OVER THERE SAYS SEVEN O'CLOCK.
DON'T WORRY, MR. IZUMI...
WE'RE GOING HOME SOON...
HEH
W...
WHAT ARE YOU?!
RCA

AM I RIGHT?
AH...
AH...
...IT'S A CLOCK IN A MIRROR.

YOU ALL TOLD ME YOU LOVE ME...
...BUT NONE OF YOU LOVE ME FROM THE BOTTOM OF YOUR HEARTS.
WHEN I VOLUNTEERED TO HELP WITH YOUR SCHOOL WORK, YUKI, YOU TURNED ME DOWN, SAYING YOU HAD ANOTHER APPOINTMENT.
KAORI, YOU SPAZZED OUT WHEN I PATTED YOU ON THE SHOULDER ...
...AND MEGUMI, YOU DON'T PAY ATTENTION WHEN I TALK DURING CLASS.
IF YOU LOVE ME YOU HAVE TO ACCEPT ALL OF ME...
...I'M GOING TO TEACH THE THREE OF YOU WHAT TRUE LOVE IS ALL ABOUT!
YOU ARE ALL GOING TO BE MINE!

JUST AS WE THOUGHT.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO KIDNAPPED THEM...
...MR. IZUMI.
MEGUMI!!
BY PUTTING THE MIRROR IN THE CORNER AT A FORTY-FIVE DEGREE ANGLE, YOU COULD MAKE IT LOOK LIKE THERE'S NOTHING IN THE CORNER.
SO YOU WERE ABLE TO HIDE THEM TEMPORARILY BY USING SUCH A SIMPLE TRICK.
Space
Mirror
DON'T TOUCH HER!!
DO NOT TOUCH ANY OF MY GIRLS.
...I'LL THROW ACID ON YOU.
H_2SO_4

NICE CATCH.
...A SELFISH LOSER!!
IN TRUE LOVE, THE FIRST STEP IS TO CONFESS YOUR FEELINGS...
...THEN THINGS START FROM THERE.

YOU CHILDISH AND SORRY EXCUSE FOR A HUMAN BEING.
W...
WHAT?
YOU SOUND LIKE A LITTLE KID...
...WHO'S FRUSTRATED BECAUSE HE CAN'T CONTROL EVERYONE.
WHY DO YOU THINK YOU CAN CONTROL OTHER PEOPLE'S MINDS?
THAT ONE-WAY APPROACH DEFINITELY ISN'T TRUE LOVE!!
UH...
YOU'RE NOTHING BUT...

AT ANY RATE...
ANOTHER CASE CLOSED!!
I'M SO BEAUTIFUL SOMETIMES IT FRIGHTENS ME.
...IT'S SAD MY AMAZING BEAUTY LED TO SUCH AN AWFUL KIDNAPPING CASE...
HEY, MASTER?
YOU HAVE ONE MYSTERY LEFT.
LILI?
IT'S FIVE-THIRTY.
I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHO SENT ME MY LOVE LETTER.
ORIHIME PARK AT FIVE O'CLOCK!
OH MY GOSH!

IT WAS QUITE A SCANDAL ...
SIRIUS IS THE BRIGHTEST STAR IN THE SKY
I HATE THE FACT HE USED MY NAME BUT...
...AND THAT'S WHY HE USED SIRIUS AS HIS ALIAS.
MR. IZUMI WANTED TO BE THE BRIGHTEST ONE OF ALL...
...SPICA SUCCESSFULLY SOLVED THE CASE AND PUNISHED HIM...
...SO I GUESS THAT MAKES EVERYTHING COOL AGAIN!!!

HUH?
HUH?
HE MUST BE SOMEWHERE IN THE PARK...
NO ONE'S HERE...?
I WANT TO KNOW...
...ABOUT THIS BOY...
...WHO SAYS HE LOVES ME.
I'VE BEEN IN LOVE WITH YOU...
Dear La Hirlesian
THE ONE SO CHEERFUL AND HONEST.

THIS...
...IS...
Orihime Park

OOPS!
HEY!
LILI!
WHA...
FLOP
HOW COME SHE GETS ALL HYPED UP...
...OVER SUCH A TOTALLY SUSPICIOUS LETTER?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
...AND I'M NOT GOING HOME 'TIL I FIND HIM.
I'M MAKING A VOW TO MYSELF. THE ONE WHO SENT ME THIS LOVE LETTER IS DEFINITELY HERE...
WHAT?
DON'T YOU REMEMBER?
THIS..
...LOVE LETTER.
Dear Lili Hoshizawa
I've been in love with you like no one so cheerful and honest. I'll make it a fantasy place in a few days. I would like to see you before I go. I'll be waiting for you at the usual spot tomorrow
OIKAWA?
IT'S FROM ME.

I'VE GOT TO KNOW!!!

RIGHT BEFORE I MOVED OUT OF TOWN...
...I GAVE IT TO YOU.
BEFORE YOU MOVED?
WHAT?
BEFORE YOU MOVED YOU GAVE IT TO ME?
WA... WAIT A MINUTE!
HOW MANY YEARS AGO WAS THAT?
OIKAWA...
...WROTE IT TO ME.
NO...
...KIDDING?
I WROTE IT...
...TO YOU.
WHAT?!!

TEN YEARS AGO...
...I WAS WAITING FOR YOU...
...RIGHT HERE IN THIS VERY PARK.
CAN THIS POSSIBLY BE RIGHT?
OIKAWA IS IN LOVE WITH ME?
"I'VE BEEN..."
"...IN LOVE WITH YOU."

TEN YEARS AGO.
HE.. HEY!
WHAT KIND OF JOKE ARE YOU TRYING TO PULL? I FOUND THIS LETTER IN ONE OF MY NOTEBOOKS YESTERDAY...
I'M NOT JOKING.
YOU MUST HAVE PULLED IT OUT OF AN OLD NOTEBOOK YOU'VE KEPT HIDDEN AWAY FOR YEARS IN YOUR DESK OR SOMETHING.
URG!!!
HE'S RIGHT
YOU MEAN...
.YOU NEVER READ IT UNTIL YESTER-DAY?
BUT...
BUT THE LETTER IS PRETTY COMPLEX!
HOW IN THE WORLD COULD A FOUR-YEAR-OLD READ IT?
STILL THOUGH...

LILI...
...I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS MOMENT FOR TEN YEARS.
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN IN LOVE WITH YOU. ALWAYS.
WAIT ...
OKAWA !!!

十二宮でつかまえて
★File 8★
Wedding Reception of the Pisces (Part 1)
(前編)

Mademoiselle Lili's Astrology (13)

What kind of personality do you have when you are in love?

Aries - Once in love, you are very straightforward! Move slowly and try not to be so pushy.

Taurus - You tend toward long-term relationships. You are often so shy that you could miss out on love.

Gemini - You will enjoy a lot of fun relationships. But even if you get married, you might fall in love with someone else and have an affair.

Cancer - You're warm-hearted. You are a person who shows devotion to your loved ones with maternal instinct. You want your partner to confess love first, not vice versa.

Leo - You have passionate relationships, just like in the movies or a romance novel!

Virgo - You don't like complicated relationships and tend to be passive toward the one you love.

Libra - You want intelligent conversations and activities with your mate. Sometimes you appear a bit too complicated.

Scorpio - You usually wait patiently until your true love finally comes along.

Sagittarius - You fall in and out of love quickly and tend to confess your affections way too soon!!

Capricorn - You are passive when it comes to a romantic relationship and tend to carry a torch forever.

Aquarius - You are very coolheaded, and not usually very interested in passionate lust. A serious relationship usually develops from ordinary friendship.

Pisces - Once you're in love you completely devote yourself to that person.

TEN YEARS AGO...
...HE WAS DEEPLY HURT WHEN YOU DIDN'T SHOW UP AT THE PARK.
AND HOW EXACTLY DO YOU KNOW ABOUT IT, HUH?!
OF COURSE I KNOW.
DID HIROMI CONFESS TO YOU BY ANY CHANCE?
TOTALLY! AND I'M REALLY SHAKEN UP BY THE NEWS.
HE WAITED FOR YOU TO SHOW UP ALL DAY IN THE RAIN.
HE EVEN ENDED UP WITH A SEVERE CASE OF PNEUMONIA AND...
...WAS IN CRITICAL CONDITION FOR THREE DAYS.
THEN...
...AFTER HE RECOVERED..
"I HATE GIRLS!"
WAS ALL HE SAID.
WHICH
MEANS
HUH?
NOPE. WE'RE JUST IN YOUR FORTUNE-TELLER PLACE.
I THOUGHT I WAS AT A WEDDING CHAPEL.
MEGUMI?!
URG!!
YOU DOZED OFF WITH A CUSTOMER IN THE ROOM.
MADEMOISELLE LILI, I'D SAY YOUR SERVICES ARE GETTING WAY TOO SLOPPY.
UNE TEL
SPICA
WHAT A DREAM...
BUT AT LEAST I'M AWAKE NOW
IT'S ONLY BECAUSE OIKAWA GAVE ME A LETTER CONFESSING HIS LOVE TO ME.

ABOUT A WEDDING ?!
THAT'S RIGHT. MY TUTOR'S GETTING MARRIED.
I WANTED YOU TO FORECAST IF HER WEDDING WILL TAKE PLACE WITHOUT ANY PROBLEMS.
HER NAME IS MARIE DAIMARU...
...AND HER DATE OF BIRTH IS MARCH 14TH, 1977.
YOU MUST HAVE HEARD OF ANDROMEDA WEDDING, RIGHT?
THE PROBLEM IS THE PLACE WHERE THEY'RE HOLDING THE WEDDING RECEPTION
DO YOU THINK THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE PROBLEMS IN THEIR MARRIAGE?
ANDROMEDA WEDDING?
YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF THE FAMOUS PAINTING?
THEY SAY IF YOU KISS YOUR PARTNER IN FRONT OF IT, YOU'LL ENJOY ETERNAL HAPPINESS.

I'M THE CAUSE OF HIS ALLERGY?!
GOSH, I MUST SEEM LIKE A WITCH!
I...
...I TEASED HIM CONSTANTLY ABOUT HIS ALLERGY.
OH, WELL
IF I WERE YOU, I WOULD HAVE JUST THROWN IT AWAY!
IT WAS HIS FAULT BECAUSE HE WROTE A LETTER YOU COULDN'T READ.
SO STOP WORRYING ABOUT HIM. GET BACK TO BUSINESS, LILI.
BESIDES, I CAME ALL THIS WAY TO ASK YOU TO DO A READING FOR SOMEONE.

SPICA P.I. CAN'T EXACTLY SIT AROUND AND DO NOTHING WHEN SHE KNOWS SOMETHING COULD HAPPEN THERE!!!
HMMMM
SPICA
ARE YOU GOING TO THE ANDROMEDA WEDDING, DAD?
YEP. THERE HAS BEEN SOME WEIRD STUFF THAT'S HAPPENED THERE..
THINGS THE POLICE CAN'T COMPLETELY IGNORE.
I'M COMING TOO!
AND...
...HERE IT COMES!
13"

...A MAL-FUNCTIONING SPRINKLER...
...AND THE WINDOWS GOT BROKEN. THAT'S JUST NAMING A FEW THINGS...
A SMALL FIRE DURING A CEREMONY..
BUT THERE'VE BEEN SEVERAL STRANGE INCIDENCES AT THE WEDDING PLACE.
THE TOWER
HOLD ON! THE TOWER CARD IS UPSIDE DOWN..
...WHICH INDICATES A GREAT DISTURBANCE!!
SOME PEOPLE THINK...
...THE PLACE IS HAUNTED.
BUT MY CARDS INDICATE A HAPPY MARRIAGE.

MEANWHILE, THERE'S BEEN A MEAL PREPARED FOR EVERYONE.
HAVE A SEAT ANY-WHERE AND ENJOY THE FOOD!
お
I DIDN'T TELL OIKAWA ABOUT THIS BUT...
...EVERY-THING SHOULD BE FINE SINCE WE DON'T ACTUALLY HAVE A CASE YET.
I SWEAR I WILL ALWAYS MAKE MARIE HAPPY!
...HERE COME THE NEWLY-WEDS!!
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN
..
おっ
WOW!
MARIE LOOKS SO PRETTY!
HOW TOTALLY BEAUTIFUL.
HUHU
HUHU
...PRETTY LUCKY.
I'M ACTUALLY ...
GETTING TO ATTEND A WEDDING RECEPTION IS PRETTY COOL. EVERYTHING LOOKS GOOD.
♡
OOPS!
MY GOSH!!

NO WONDER THAT OIKAWA ALSO KNOWS MARIE...
THAT'S RIGHT.
ARE YOU FREAKED OUT ABOUT WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING TOO?
I JUST CAN'T LOOK AT HIM NOW.
LILI?!
OIKAWA?!
THIS CHICKEN LOOKS SCRUMPTIOUS.
WOW!
I...
I'VE BEEN IN LOVE WITH YOU.
I'VE WAITED FOR TEN YEARS.
HEY, LILI.

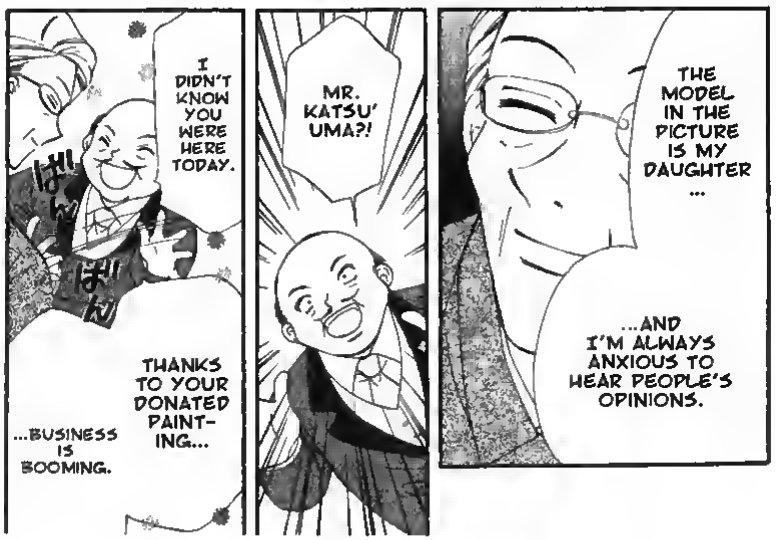
I'M SO SORRY!
HERE, LET ME WIPE IT OFF FOR YOU.

YOU IDIOT!
I WROTE THAT LETTER TEN YEARS AGO WHEN I WAS JUST A KID!
IT'S ANCIENT HISTORY.
ANCIENT ?!
SO...
...STAY COOL AND JUST TRY TO ACT NORMAL, OKAY?

...I CAN'T MARRY YOU!!
WHAT ?
HA, HA.
OH BOY! TALK ABOUT A BAD PAY
HA, HA.
TOO BAD!
HA, HA, HA.
SHE TURNED YOU DOWN, YOUNG MAN!
I ALWAYS HAVE...AS AN OLD FRIEND, YOU KNOW. BUT NOT AS A BOYFRIEND...
...I LIKE YOU.
I MEAN...
PLEASE DON'T TAKE THIS THE WRONG WAY

WOW! WHAT A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE!
ENDLESS LOVE AND HAPPINESS? IT'S JUST SOMETHING THE COMPANY MADE UP TO ADVERTISE.
AND IT COSTS SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS JUST TO HAVE A SIMPLE RECEPTION HERE.
OH MY GOSH !!
...JUST TO HAVE A RECEPTION IN THIS ROOM WITH THAT PICTURE.
SO MANY PEOPLE ARE ON THE WAITING LIST...
YOU ARE SO ROMANTIC NOT!
どな
LILI AND HIROMI, SMILE!!
BUT, WHAT EXACTLY DO I MEAN BY "I UNDERSTAND?"
SIGH...
I UNDERSTAND...
...IT'S JUST A THING OF THE PAST.
Y...
YES.
.....
"THE HAPPY BRIDE"?
YEAH, YOU KNOW, THAT FAMOUS PAINTING THAT PROMISES ENDLESS LOVE AND HAPINESS.
I'M TAKING A PICTURE OF YOU BOTH IN FRONT OF THE FAMOUS "HAPPY BRIDE," YOU KNOW.
URG !!!
WHY DON'T YOU TWO SMILE?

I DON'T MEAN TO SEEM RUDE BUT...
...NO ONE HAS EVER MADE A COMMENT LIKE THAT ABOUT THIS PAINTING BEFORE.
WHO'S THIS OLD MAN?
AH!
YOU MUST BE MR. KATSU'UMA, THE ARTIST?!
HEE HEE!
HOW DID YOU KNOW IT'S ME?
KASTU' UMA?
YOU MEAN YOU'RE THE ONE WHO PAINTED THIS PICTURE?!


I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE HERE TODAY.
THANKS TO YOUR DONATED PAINT-ING...
...BUSINESS IS BOOMING.
MR. KATSU' UMA?!
THE MODEL IN THE PICTURE IS MY DAUGHTER ...
...AND I'M ALWAYS ANXIOUS TO HEAR PEOPLE'S OPINIONS.

SO IT'S A GREAT PIECE OF ART...
...PAINTED BY A FAMOUS ARTIST, TOUSAI KATSU'UMA.
BUT...
...DON'T YOU THINK THE BRIDE...
...KINDA LOOKS SAD?
HE NEVER PAINTED ANOTHER THING AFTER COMPLETING THAT PIECE...
...SO OF COURSE IT'S WORTH MORE SINCE IT'S THE LAST MASTERPIECE BY HIM.
YOU REALLY THINK SO?

Television

I haven't talked about TV for a while, have I? I can easily get hooked on something but then I get tired of it just as easily. TV shows I watch these days

-Down Town DX
Hey! Hey! Hey! I love Matchan so much. Ever since he shaved his head, I am a huge fan of his. The episode, "Kid's Errand," in which the whole family appeared, was so funny.

-Dark Angel
I enjoy watching a soap opera in which women are portrayed as being tough (ha, ha, ha) It's mega interesting to see how the story will develop

-Wata Oru
I've been watching this show from the first episode. I can't keep my eyes off Mr Joudai !!

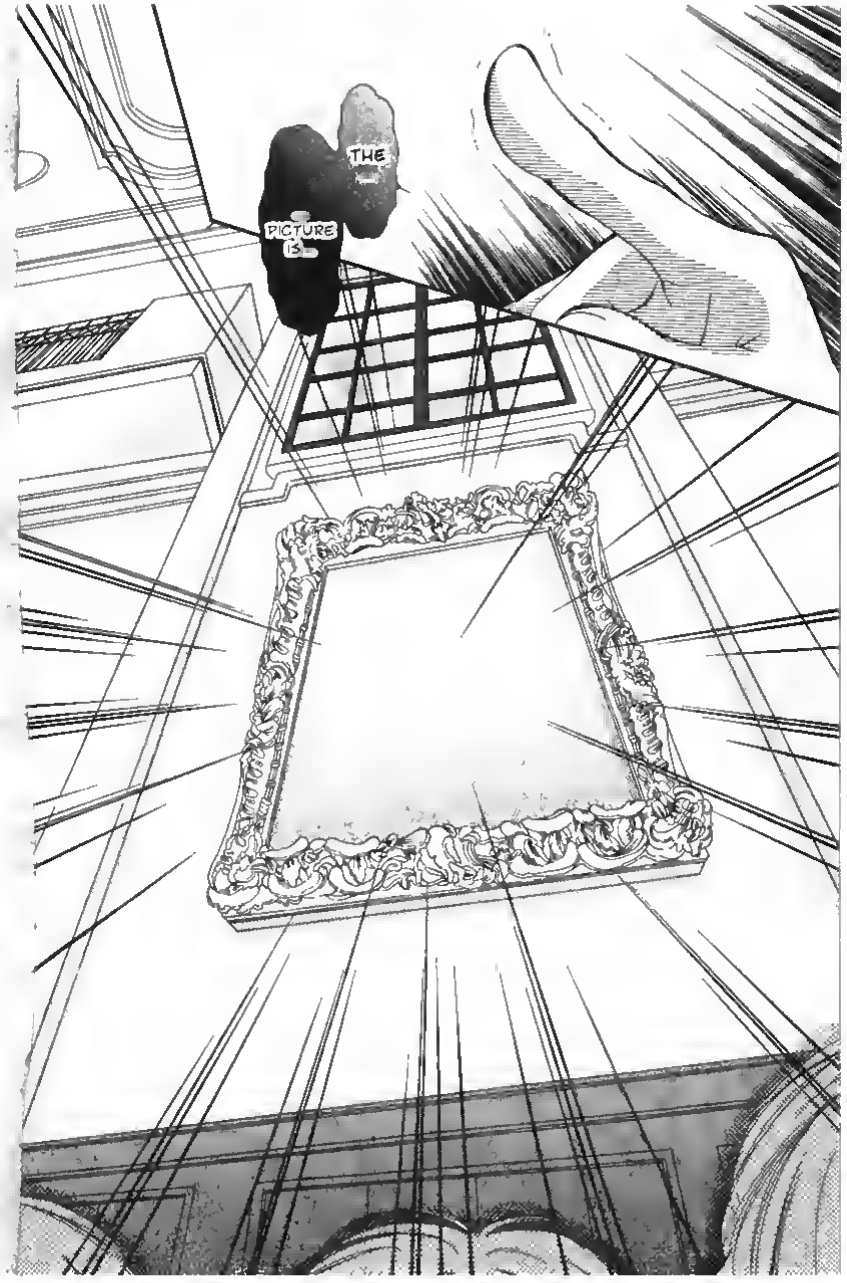
-Claim Storm
It comes on after midnight and I never can remember exactly what time it starts. I've only seen it a few times. I'm touched by the 'Arashi' members who try their best to respond to customers' claims

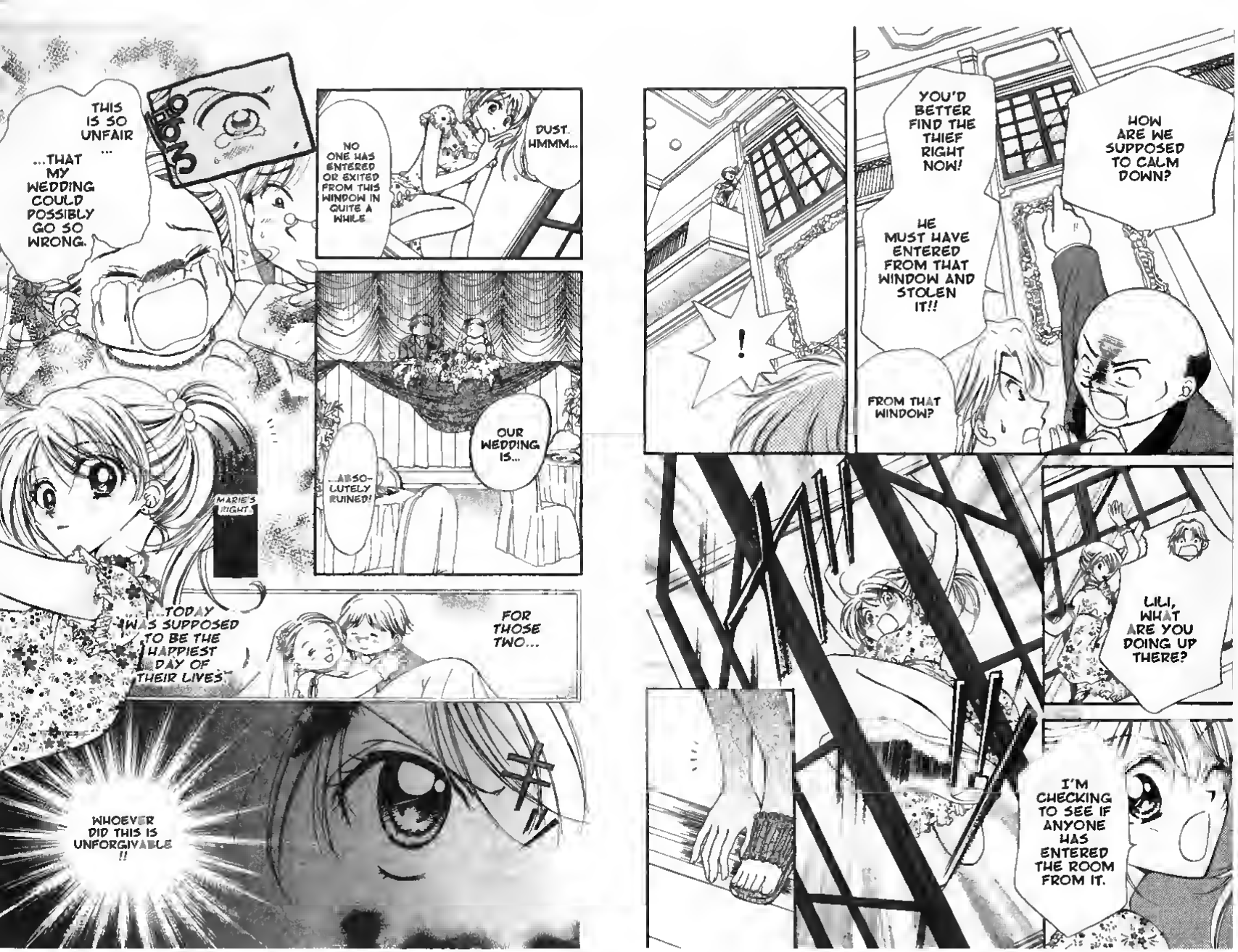
THEY FIRST MET IN KINDER-GARTEN.
THEY WERE BEST FRIENDS AND...
...THE GROOM PROPOSED TO THE BRIDE WHILE THEY WERE STILL JUST IN KINDER-GARTEN.
"I'VE BEEN IN LOVE WITH YOU, THE ONE WHO IS SO CHEERFUL AND HONEST."
...EERILY FAMILIAR.
.....
HMMM. AND DOESN'T THAT SOUND...

NOW...
...WE'RE GOING TO SHOW YOU A "CLASSIFIED" FILM ABOUT THE BRIDE AND GROOM.
はは?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT A THING.
I GOT SO WORRIED ABOUT THE PICTURE, I CAME TO CHECK ON IT.
I HEARD THERE'VE BEEN SOME STRANGE INCIDENCES HERE.
I SEE. THAT'S GOOD
THE POLICE ARE HERE, TOO.
LET ME GO TO THE FRONT SO I CAN SEE THE FILM BETTER.
...I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR OPERATING THE PROJECTOR TODAY.
EXCUSE ME, FOLKS ..
SO CUTE!
THIS IS MARIE, THE BRIDE, WHEN WHE WAS FOUR YEARS OLD. SHE WAS A BEAUTIFUL CHILD JUST LIKE A PERFECT FLOWER.

YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE FIRST PROPOSAL...
...BUT HIS FEELINGS TOWARD HER HAVE...
...NEVER CHANGED
THIS FILM IS ABOUT MARIE AND HER HUSBAND...
...NOT ABOUT US.....
...THE BRIDE AND GROOM KISS TO VOW ETERNAL LOVE.
AND TODAY...
LILI!
I'M SORRY TO HAVE TO RAISE MY VOICE.
OH MY GOSH!
HEY, LOOK!
WHAT?!

!
"HAPPY BRIDE" HAS DISAPPEARED!!
...GONE?!
HOW COULD IT HAPPEN?
A THIEF IS AMONG US!
WHEN DID IT HAPPEN?!
THIS MUST BE...
WAA-!!
EVERYONE, PLEASE CALM DOWN!!!
...WHAT THE INVERTED TOWER CARD WAS ALL ABOUT?

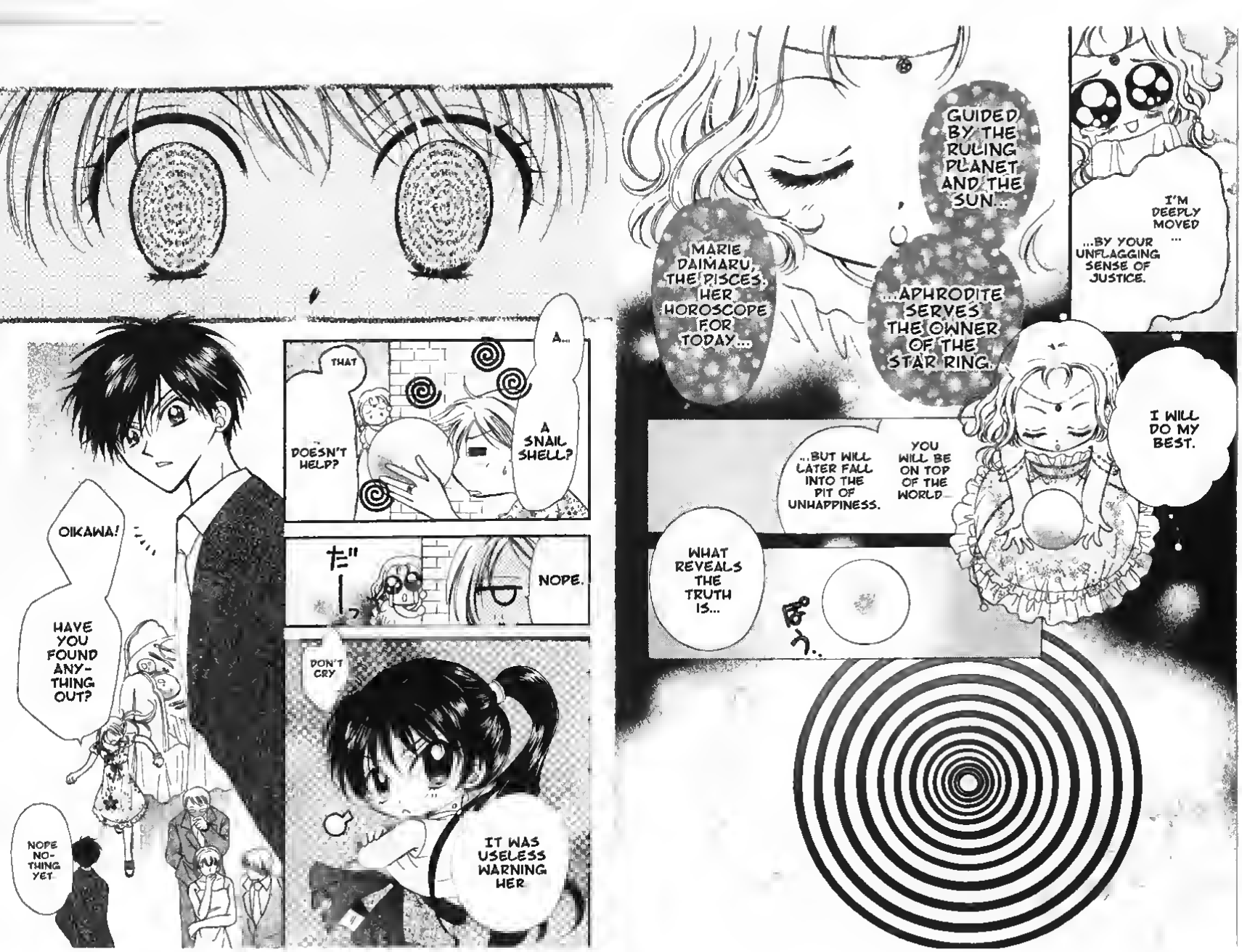

THE
PICTURE IS


THIS IS SO UNFAIR ...
...THAT MY WEDDING COULD POSSIBLY GO SO WRONG.
CHAPTER ONE
MARIE'S RIGHT
NO ONE HAS ENTERED OR EXITED FROM THIS WINDOW IN QUITE A WHILE.
DUST. HMMM...
OUR WEDDING IS...
...ABSO-LUTELY RUINED!
...TODAY WAS SUPPOSED TO BE THE HAPPIEST DAY OF THEIR LIVES.
FOR THOSE TWO...
WHOEVER DID THIS IS UNFORGIVABLE !!
!
HE MUST HAVE ENTERED FROM THAT WINDOW AND STOLEN IT!!
YOU'D BETTER FIND THE THIEF RIGHT NOW!
HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO CALM DOWN?
FROM THAT WINDOW?
LILI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP THERE?
I'M CHECKING TO SEE IF ANYONE HAS ENTERED THE ROOM FROM IT.

...WHICH MAKES HER SUN SIGN PISCES.
MARIE'S BIRTHDAY IS MARCH 14TH...
...COME OUT OF THE RING.
I THINK IT'S TIME FOR ME TO FIND THE THIEF!
APHRODITE, THE SPIRIT OF PISCES...
ANSWER YOUR MASTER AND
WHAT?
LILI.
H... HEY!
WHY IN THE WORLD DID YOU COME OUT?
YOU'RE THE ASTRAL SPIRIT OF ARIES, NOT PISCES.
ARIES
NONE OTHER!

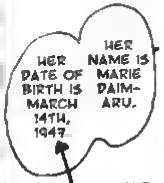
NO WAY!
WHAT?
WE ARE RECEIVING SIGNS WHICH INDICATE GREAT DANGER
THIS WILL BE A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH...
...SO STAY OUT OF THIS CASE AND--
I'M NOT EXACTLY THE SCAREDY CAT TYPE! I'M SPICA P.I., YOU KNOW.
COME ON, APHRODITE.
CAST MARIE'S HORO-SCOPE FOR TODAY.

ARIES IS SO SCATTER-BRAINED.
I KNOW.
IT'S ALL MY FAULT BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE WHAT IT TAKES!
I'M SO SORRY !!!
NO!!!
OUCH!
NO...IT'S NOT HER FAULT. LISTEN UP, LILI.
OH, NO?
DROP THIS CASE RIGHT NOW!
IF YOU DON'T, YOU'LL BE IN EXTREME DANGER!
WHAT ?


I'M DEEPLY MOVED ... ...BY YOUR UNFLAGGING SENSE OF JUSTICE.
GUIDED BY THE RULING PLANET AND THE SUN...
MARIE DAIMARU, THE PISCES. HER HOROSCOPE FOR TODAY...
...APHRODITE SERVES THE OWNER OF THE STAR RING.
I WILL DO MY BEST.
YOU WILL BE ON TOP OF THE WORLD—
...BUT WILL LATER FALL INTO THE PIT OF UNHAPPINESS.
WHAT REVEALS THE TRUTH IS...
ぽう..
A...
A SNAIL SHELL?
THAT DOESN'T HELP?
NOPE.
OIKAWA!
HAVE YOU FOUND ANY-THING OUT?
NOPE NO-THING YET.
DON'T CRY
IT WAS USELESS WARNING HER

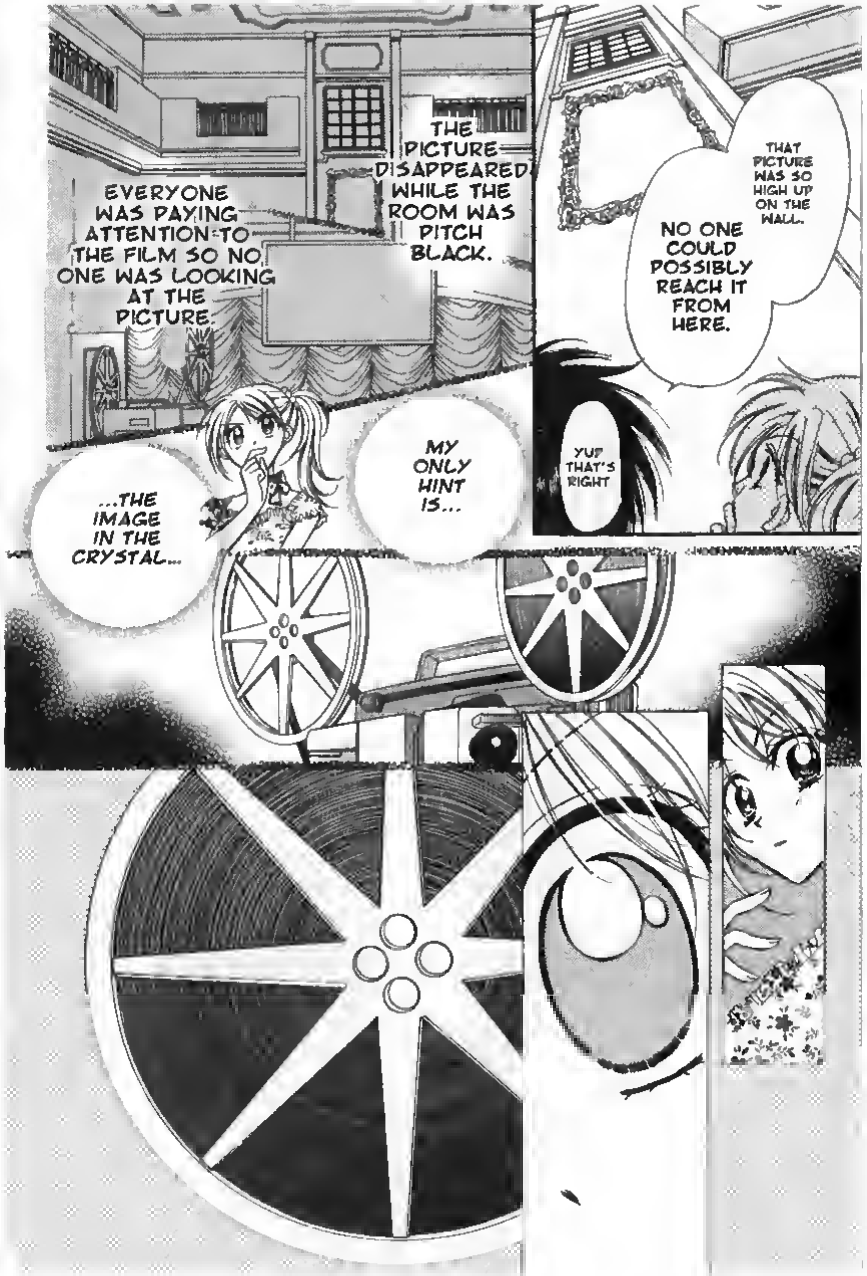
Queen of Misspelling

I've already told you about me being the queen of writer's block, but I was granted yet another title the other day. My editor noticed a major mistake (its not quite a 'misspelling' though) in this episode before it went to press

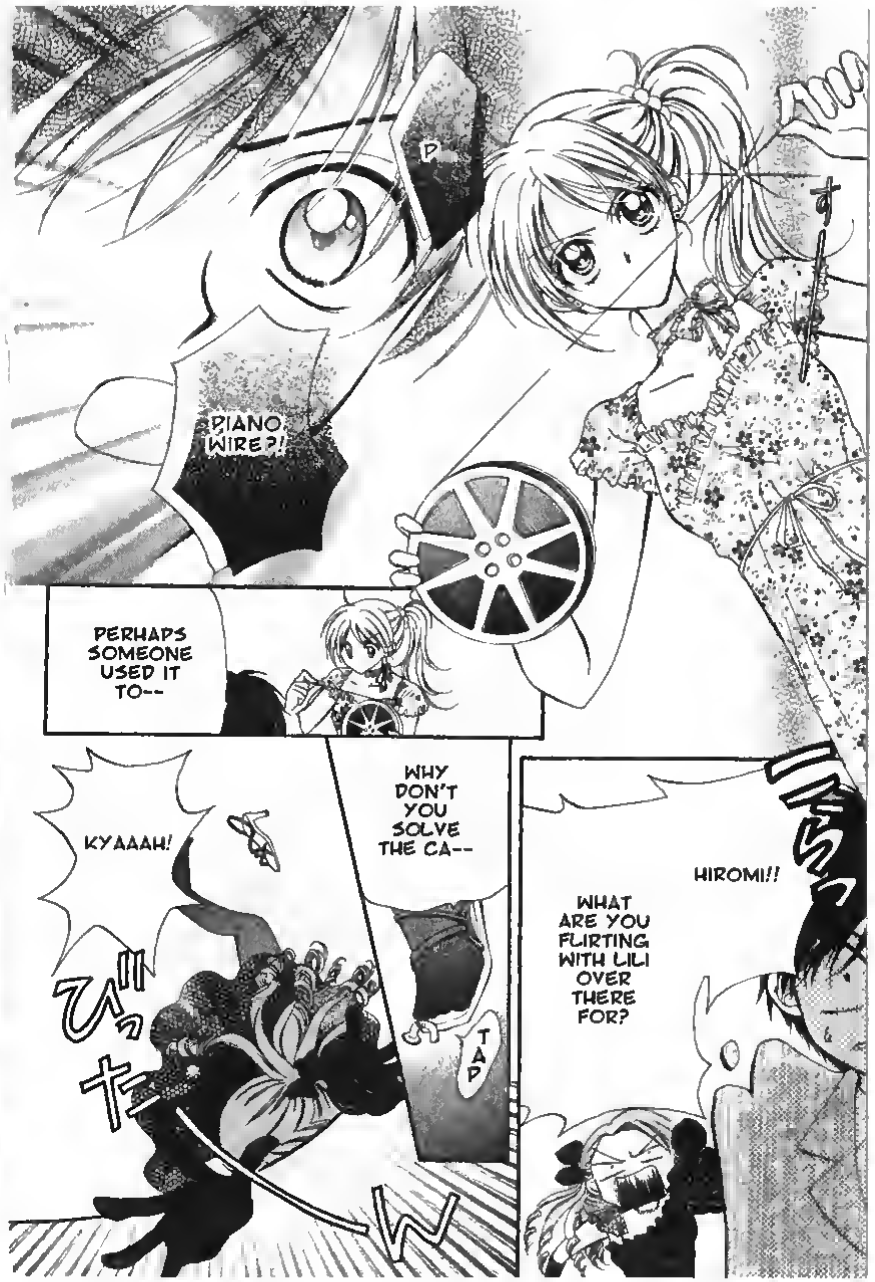


Also from the first episode, I originally wrote

So I guess that means she's 5 years old?! I guess you could say I'm not exactly good with numbers!


EVERYONE WAS PAYING ATTENTION TO THE FILM SO NO ONE WAS LOOKING AT THE PICTURE.
THE PICTURE DISAPPEARED WHILE THE ROOM WAS PITCH BLACK.
THAT PICTURE WAS SO HIGH UP ON THE WALL.
NO ONE COULD POSSIBLY REACH IT FROM HERE.
YUP THAT'S RIGHT
MY ONLY HINT IS...
...THE IMAGE IN THE CRYSTAL...

A NAIL?!
WHO THE HECK...
...PUT A NAIL ON THE FLOOR LIKE THIS!?
IT'S RIGHT UNDER THE PICTURE
HMMM YOU'RE RIGHT


PIANO WIRE?!
PERHAPS SOMEONE USED IT TO--
KYAAAH!
WHY DON'T YOU SOLVE THE CA--
TAP
HIROMI!!
WHAT ARE YOU FLIRTING WITH LILI OVER THERE FOR?

SO WHAT?
WE'RE ABOUT TO REVEAL THE TRUTH OF PISCES.
AND IF WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH EVIDENCE ...
...WE CAN ALWAYS SET THE THIEF UP.
I'M GOING TO SHED SOME LIGHT ON THE SITUATION!!!

OKAWA, PERHAPS...
THE PICTURE DISAPPEARED, THE ROOM WAS ULTRA DARK...
...AND THAT PIANO WIRE ON THE WHEEL...
YES!
IT DISAPPEARED IN A FRACTION OF A SECOND
THE PICTURE WASN'T TAKEN FROM THAT WINDOW
...BUT WE DON'T HAVE A DEFINITE PIECE OF EVIDENCE
AND I THINK I'VE SORT OF FIGURED OUT WHO DID IT...

THE THIEF WILL DEFINITELY COME BACK HERE!!
JUST WAIT AND SEE.
HEY, LILI!
ARE YOU SURE THE THIEF WILL COME BACK TO THE RECEPTION ROOM?
THE PICTURE IS ALREADY GONE, YOU KNOW. AND WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH THE SPICA OUTFIT?

Mademoiselle Lili's Astrology (14)

Aries ♈

The first sign in the zodiac. Aries is a positive and active person. She loves to try new things and always gives any challenge her best shot!! Watch out because she can be super stubborn sometimes. The Aries boy might brag about being popular with girls but the truth is that he tends to wait for a girl to approach him. His perfect type is an honest, athletic girl.

OKAY. I PROMISE.
HONESTLY! DON'T DO ANYTHING I WOULDN'T DO, LILI!!
JUST PROMISE ME ONE THING, OKAY?
DON'T PUT YOURSELF AT RISK FOR ANYTHING.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!
City Hall, near the wedding building.
HOW COME WE ALL HAVE TO LEAVE THE BUILDING AND GET STUCK HERE?
YEAH, WHY EXACTLY ?
I'VE BEEN EXPLAIN-ING THAT...
...THE POLICE ARE INVES-TIGATING THE CASE NOW.
I'M SO WORRIED ...
...ABOUT YOU, WAITING FOR THE THIEF TO SHOW UP ALL BY YOURSELF!
YES, I KNOW
PLEASE OIKAWA.
BUT IT WILL BE EASIER TO WAIT BY MYSELF.

CLANK
AND WHAT EXACTLY ARE YOU TRYING TO DO WITH A PICTURE THAT'S NO LONGER THERE?
!
I KNEW YOU'D COME BACK.
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU...
WHEW! IT'S SO BORING TO JUST WAIT AROUND LIKE THIS...
あ!
PSSSST, ARIES!
CREAK
!
SPICA!
HERE HE COMES!!

...CHECKING TO SEE IF THERE ARE ANY CLUES AROUND THE FRAME.
I...
...I'M JUST...
!
BUT REALLY, YOU'RE JUST HERE TO GET "HAPPY BRIDE" BACK, AREN'T YOU?
YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?
CLICK
THE PAINTING WAS STOLEN IT'S NOT HERE ANYMORE.
WHAT ?
...PROJECTOR.
THERE
カタ
カタ
カタ
AFTER ALL, YOU KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN YOU RUN THE...

...MR. KATSUMA!!

YOU PLACED A ROLL OF PAPER ON TOP OF THE PICTURE...
...THEN YOU ATTACHED PIANO WIRE TO THE PAPER.
DURING THE RECEPTION, YOU HOOKED THE OTHER END OF THE WIRE ONTO THE FILM'S WHEEL WHILE YOU WERE IN THE PROCESS OF MOVING TO THE FRONT. WHAT DID YOU SAY? OH YEAH.. YOU WANTED TO SEE THE FILM BETTER.
THEN, ONCE THEY START TO PLAY THE FILM...
...THE WHITE PAPER ROLLED DOWN.
WHEN THE END OF THE PAPER REACHED THE BOTTOM OF THE PICTURE, THE WIRE BROKE OFF AND GOT WOUND AROUND THE WHEEL.
!!
THAT'S RIGHT!
THE PAINTING WAS NEVER STOLEN. IT WAS JUST COVERED UP!
USING THE SAME TRICK YOU USED, ONLY IN REVERSE...
...I COULD REWIND THE ROLL OF PAPER.

I THOUGHT YOU DONATED THE PAINTING.
MY ONLY QUESTION IS, "WHY?"
YES.
.....
THIS PAINTING IS...
...THE LAST MEMENTO OF MY DAUGHTER.
SHE KNEW SHE WOULDN'T LIVE VERY LONG.
MY DAUGHTER HAD POOR HEALTH
THE LAST?
HEY, DAD!
WILL YOU PAINT A PICTURE OF ME?

NOBODY NOTICED WHAT REALLY HAPPENED BECAUSE IT WAS SO DARK IN THE ROOM...
...BUT THERE SHOULD BE PLENTY OF YOUR FINGERPRINTS ON THE FILM AND THE WHEEL...
...MR. KATSU'UMA.
.....

MR. KATSU-'UMA!
ガラ
はっはっはっ?
I DIDN'T PAINT THIS PICTURE...
THAT CREEPY OLD CODGER!
...TO LET A GUY LIKE HIM MAKE MONEY OFF OF IT.
THAT PICTURE IS MINE!!
ばっ

THAT GREEDY PRESIDENT MANIPULATED ME.
THAT WAS...
ME IN A WEDDING GOWN...
...HER LAST SMILE.
"I WONDER IF YOU'D LIKE TO DISPLAY THE PAINTING FOR A WHILE IN THE RECEPTION ROOM? IT WILL PROBABLY SOOTHE YOUR LATE DAUGHTER'S SOUL, YOU KNOW."
I ONLY MEANT TO LET THEM BORROW IT...
FOR JUST A LITTLE WHILE
"OH, GOSH, LOOK AT THIS."
"YOU'VE SIGNED A CONTRACT WHICH GIVES US TITLE TO THE PAINTING."
"THIS MEANS IT'S ALL OURS NOW."
...AS A HAPPY BRIDE?

Thank you!!

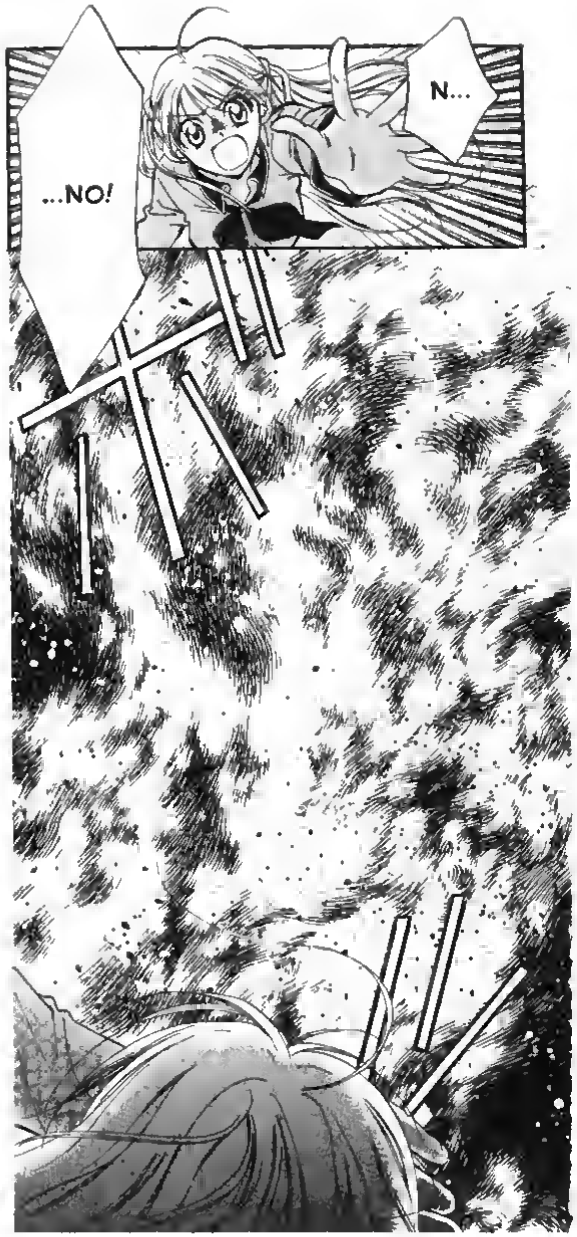
This is my last column for this volume. Zodiac P.I. is close to its end in Nakayoshi, the magazine. I'm doing my best to make this series a great work!! A lot of people helped me with my work.

- Mika ~ I hope Cyunichi Carps win the tournament next year
- Ms. Marimoto ~ My Wata-oni bud!
- Ms. Higa ~ Sorry to keep a housewife like you waiting until morning!
- Ms. Hatasako ~ I love your scary stories
Editors
- Ms. Ebomi
- Ms. Kusimoto
- Ms. Zusi

Send any comments to

Natsumi Ando
Nakayoshi Editorial Office
PO BOX 91
Tokyo, 107-8652
Akasaka Post Office

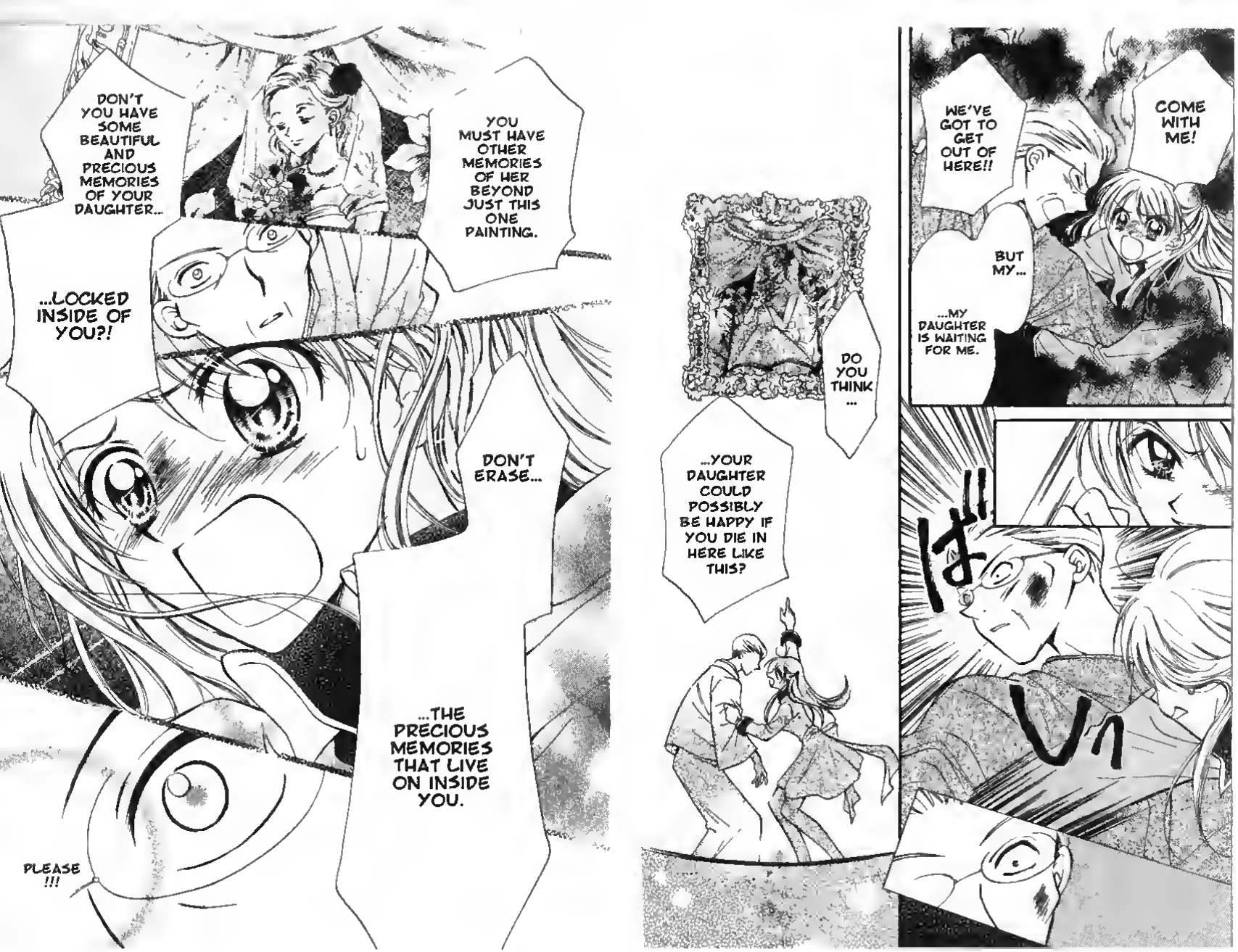
I hope you enjoy the bonus episode and the 'Star Talk'



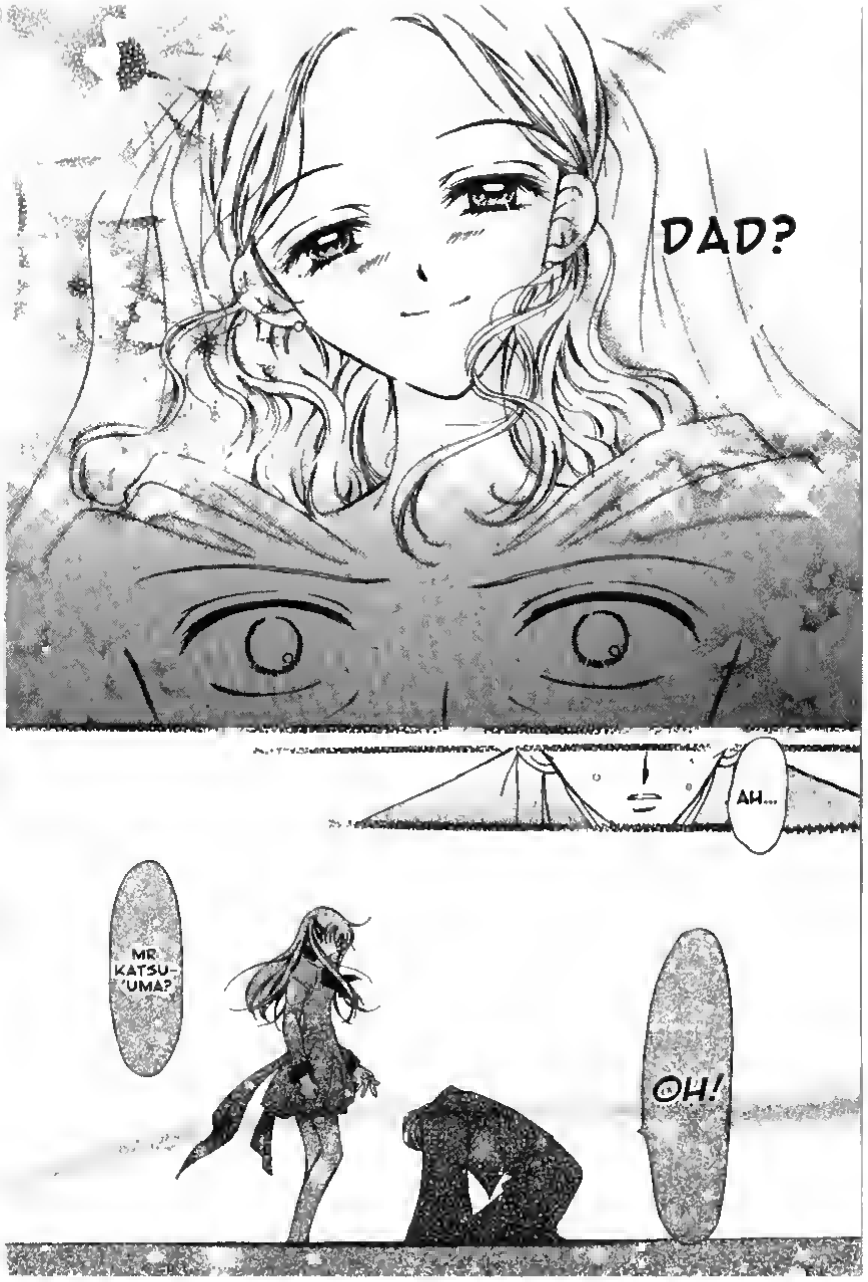
FREEZE!!
I'M DETERMINED TO FINISH MYSELF OFF IF SOMEONE FINDS OUT ABOUT THIS.
IT SMELLS LIKE...
...GASOLINE?
JUST LEAVE THE LIGHTER ALONE. OKAY?
LET'S NOT PLAY WITH FIRE RIGHT NOW, OKAY?
IF I CAN'T GET THE PICTURE BACK...

The Doll

The doll which appears in the Kyoto episode scared all the staff members. One of the editors let me borrow a book about Japanese dolls which is supposedly possessed by an evil spirit. As soon as I finished writing the episode, I gave the scary book back. I don't remember playing with dolls when I was little. My sister had a doll called "Syringe Meme-chan." When you gave the doll an injection, tears came out of her eyes. I thought the doll was kind of creepy. When I think of it now, I have no idea why such a doll would be produced for kids. Meme-chan. I don't think I ever owned Rika-chan dolls. I was always active and running around outside, which I guess made me too busy for dolls. No wonder I had cuts, scrapes and scars all over my body when I was little!


COME WITH ME!
WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!!
BUT MY...
...MY DAUGHTER IS WAITING FOR ME.
DO YOU THINK ...
...YOUR DAUGHTER COULD POSSIBLY BE HAPPY IF YOU DIE IN HERE LIKE THIS?
YOU MUST HAVE OTHER MEMORIES OF HER BEYOND JUST THIS ONE PAINTING.
DON'T YOU HAVE SOME BEAUTIFUL AND PRECIOUS MEMORIES OF YOUR DAUGHTER...
...LOCKED INSIDE OF YOU?!
DON'T ERASE...
...THE PRECIOUS MEMORIES THAT LIVE ON INSIDE YOU.
PLEASE !!!

ガラ
ガラ
ガラ
ガラ
ゴゴゴ
MR. KATSU'UMA !!
URG...


DAD?
AH...
MR. KATSU-'UMA?
OH!

LILI!
LILI!
THANK GOD HIROMI IS HERE TO HELP HER!
OIKAWA?
YOU OKAY, LILI?
URG...
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
I...
HOT. SO HOT...
...AM I GOING TO...

LILI!
...SHE'S STILL INSIDE!!
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
MR. KATSU-'UMA!!
WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE'S LILI?!
...SHE TRIED TO HELP ME OUT...
S...
STOP IT!!
DON'T EVEN SAY SOME-THING LIKE THAT!
WHAT CAN WE DO? SPICA IS GOING TO DIE!

LILI!
NO. I CAN'T!!
YOU'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF H...
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COME ON. HOLD YOUR BREATH FOR A WHILE.
LILI!
DON'T INHALE THE SMOKE!
BUT ...
...I CAN'T HELP IT...
MMM...

ゴォォォ
CAN YOU WALK?
WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO DIE LIKE THIS...
...BECAUSE THE CASE STILL ISN'T SOLVED!
YES.
H...
HUFF...
WE ARE SAFE NOW...
GRRR

YOUR COUGH STOPPED?
YES...
YES...
HOW CAN I LEAVE YOU HERE?
OIKAWA
IT'S OKAY.

YOUR ALLERGY..
HE WAS...IN DESPERATION.
...HE RESCUED ME FROM THE FIRE...
I GUESS I WAS PRETTY DESPERATE TO SAVE YOU..
...EVEN WHEN I KIS--
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
WELL, UMM
ALL I COULD THINK WAS TO RESCUE YOU.
ばくん
ARRG...
LILI!
I ... I THINK I CAN STAND BY MYSELF NOW.
...BUT YOU ALMOST DIED IN THERE!
I TOLD YOU NOT TO PUT YOURSELF AT RISK...
YOU IDIOT!!!
YOU'VE BEEN HOLDING ONTO ME FOR QUITE A WHILE NOW...
WHAT?
O... OIKAWA?

I WISH THEY'D DIED IN THERE.
UH-OH.
I EVEN GAVE HIM ENOUGH GASOLINE TO DO THE JOB...
BUT ...EVEN THEN, THE GREAT ARTIST ENDED UP MAKING A MAJOR BLUNDER.
I MEAN ... DON'T YOU THINK SO?
SIRIUS?
To be continued in Volume 4

THANKS...
...OIKAWA.
NO PROBLEM.

TEN YEARS AGO, I THOUGHT I WAS SMARTER THAN ANYONE ELSE.
I THOUGHT I KNEW EVERYTHING.
...AND I KNEW THE EIGHTY-EIGHT CONSTELLATIONS IN THE SKY.

YOU GET TO BE THE MONSTER!
HIROMI!
LET'S PLAY HERCULES.
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN CHILD'S PLAY.
NO, THANKS.
すた
すた
KINDERGARTEN IS SO BORING.
びえ〜〜〜っ

リリと広海のはじめての事件簿
Lili and Hiromi's First Case
SIDE STORY

HIROMI!
IT'S NAP TIME!
BUT I'M NOT SLEEPY!
EVERYONE ELSE IS NAPPING PEACEFULLY. COULD YOU DO ME A FAVOR AND DO WHAT YOU'RE TOLD?
I WAS WRONG. IT'S WAY BEYOND BORING.
OH BOY.
HEY! IT'S YOU, ISN'T IT?
YOU STOLE MASARU'S MONEY, DIDN'T YOU?
WHAT ...?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
SOMEONE TOOK MASARU'S MONEY FROM HIS DESK DURING THE NAP TIME.
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO WASN'T SLEEPING.
NOPE. YOU'RE QUESTIONING THE WRONG PERSON. I DIDN'T TAKE IT.
SO... GET OUT OF MY FACE!
GIVE IT BACK TO HIM, NOW!!

HIRO ALREADY SAID HE DIDN'T DO IT.
CAN'T YOU TRUST YOUR FRIEND?!
L...
LILI?
THEN WHO TOOK IT?
SOMEONE ELSE.
AS IN WHO?
I'LL FIND OUT.
.....
LILI IS GOING TO FIND THE THIEF!!
IF YOU CAN'T FIND THE THIEF, THEN YOU HAVE TO SHAVE YOUR HEAD!
WHAT IF I DO FIND THE THIEF?
THEN YOU'RE GOING TO BE SYURA-BAA, THE EVIL MASTER.
SYURA-BAA. HER SPECIAL ATTACK IS "SHOOTING OUT INK." SHE MUMBLES "DEADLINE" ALL THE TIME. HA!
LILI HOSHIZAWA...
SHE IS WEIRD.
SHE SHOULD MIND HER OWN BUSINESS
LEAVE IT TO ME.

...BUT PERHAPS SHE'S...
SHE IS NOT HERE.
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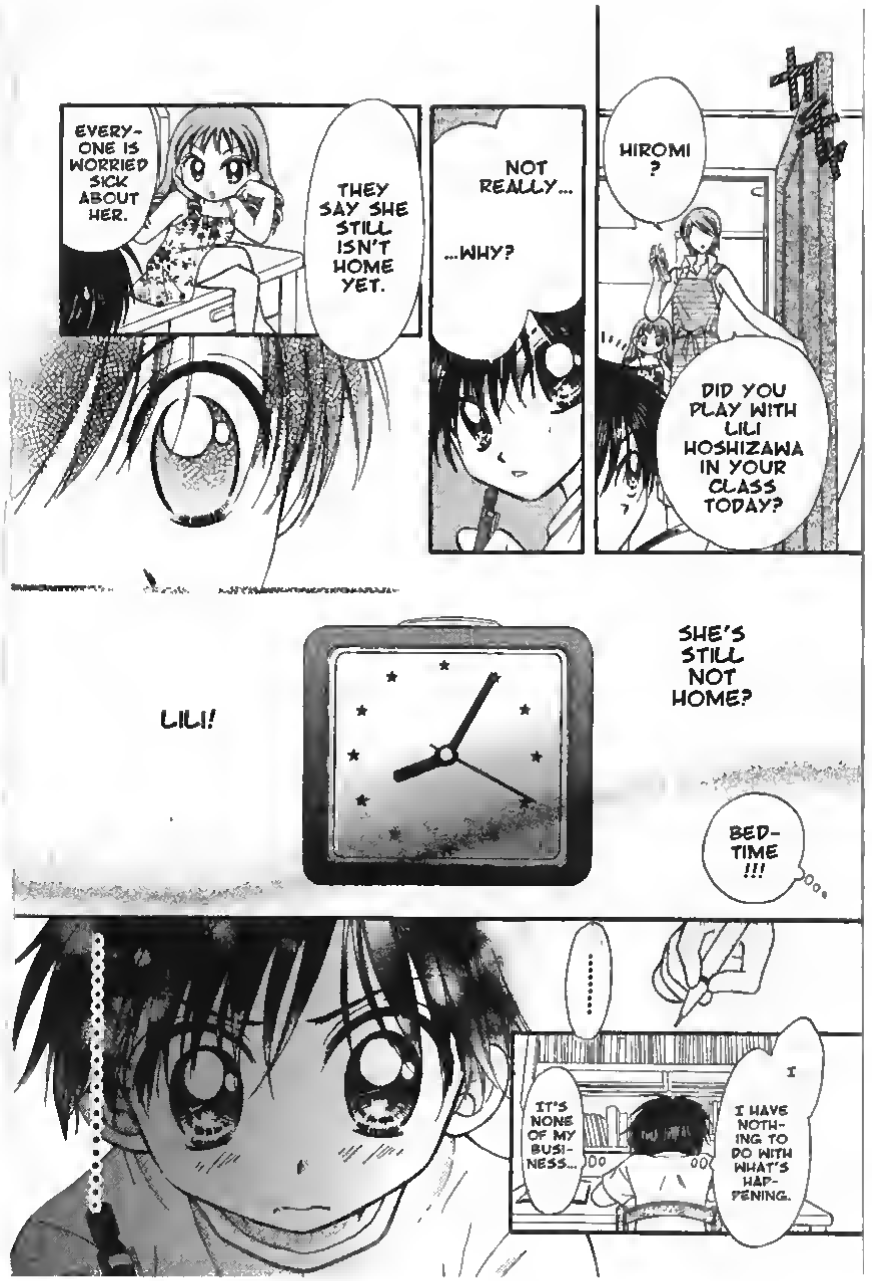
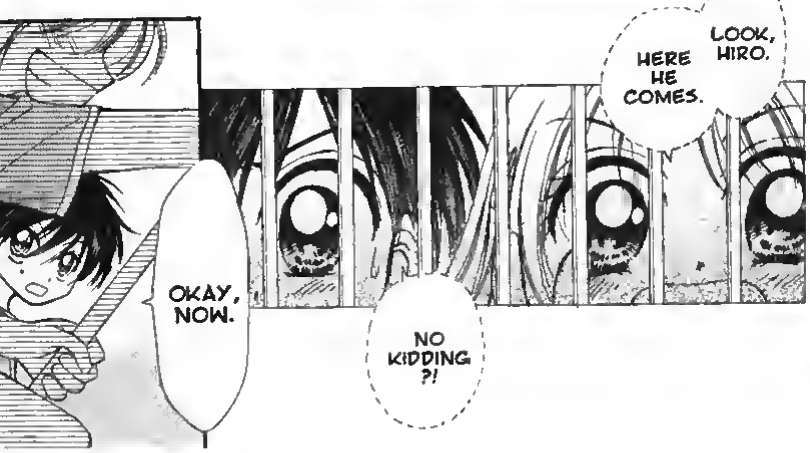

EVERY-ONE IS WORRIED SICK ABOUT HER.
THEY SAY SHE STILL ISN'T HOME YET.
NOT REALLY...
...WHY?
HIROMI ?
DID YOU PLAY WITH LILI HOSHIZAWA IN YOUR CLASS TODAY?
LILI!
SHE'S STILL NOT HOME?
BED-TIME !!!
.....
IT'S NONE OF MY BUSI-NESS...
I HAVE NOTH-ING TO DO WITH WHAT'S HAP-PENING.

I THINK...
...THE THIEF WILL COME BACK TO STEAL THE MONEY AGAIN.
YEP!
IT'S HOURS AFTER EVERY-ONE ELSE WENT HOME!
YOU'VE BEEN HERE THIS WHOLE TIME JUST TO CATCH A THIEF?!
A THIEF ALWAYS RETURNS TO THE SCENE OF A CRIME!
WHY?
UNBELIEV-ABLE!
?
?
TANNIN? WHAT'S THAT?
HOW COME YOU BOTHER TO DO THIS FOR SOMEONE YOU BARELY EVEN KNOW? A TANNIN?

わっ
ばれた!
THERE!!
.....
HELLO! HIRO?

ガタン
BUT I DON'T THINK THE THIEF WILL COME BACK HERE THIS LATE.
WE'D BETTER GO HOME FOR NOW.
!
.....
ALL RIGHT, I GUESS.
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE


LOOK, HIRO.
HERE HE COMES.
NO KIDDING?!
OKAY, NOW.

...BUT YOU DIDN'T STEAL IT, DID YOU?
THAT'S WHY WE HAVE TO FIND THE ONE WHO REALLY DID IT.

WELL, I'M STILL NOT SURE ABOUT WHAT YOU MEAN EXACTLY...

TANNIN ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT BLOOD RELATIVES, PEOPLE WHO HAVE NO SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU.
NOW YOU'VE GOT THE FULL DICTIONARY DEFINITON.

I TRUST YOU...
YOU KNOW

THERE!
YOU THIEF!!!
WHAT?
CAW!
!!
C...
A CROW?

HIRO, LOOK !!!
W...
WHOA!
...AND HERE'S MASARU'S COIN.
LOTS OF STUFF IN HERE...
I KNEW YOU DIDN'T DO IT.

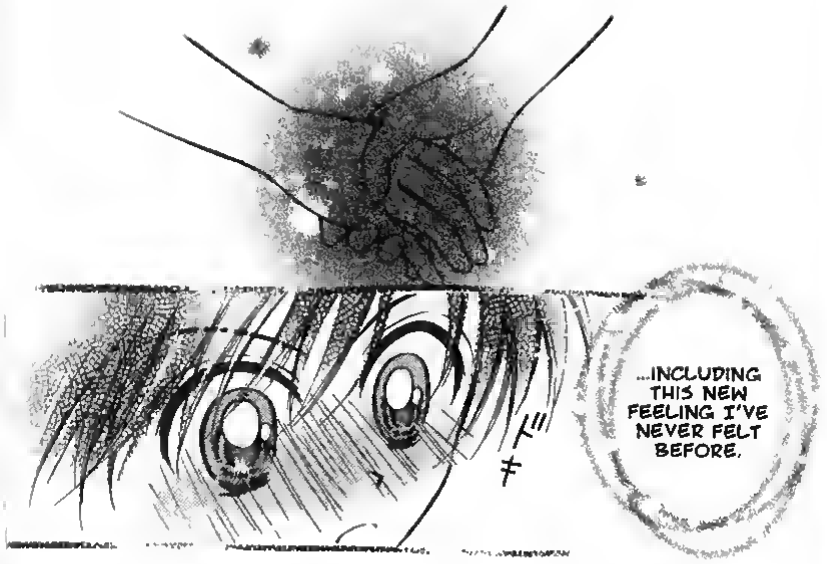
AH...
FWP
FWP
DON'T YOU DARE...
WAIT, THIEF!!
BUT WE NEED EVIDENCE TO PROVE YOUR INNOCENCE.
THAT'S RIGHT!
CROWS INSTINCTIVELY COLLECT SHINY OBJECTS.

じゃーん
TADA
OH!
HE GOT SOMETHING LIKE THIS, TOO.
ぷっ
はは
I WONDER WHERE HE FOUND THAT.
OH ...

I THOUGHT I KNEW EVERY-THING...
...BUT I DIDN'T.
...THE MOMENT IS LIKE A TREASURE.
MY MOM TOLD ME...
...THAT WHEN YOU LEARN SOMETHING NEW...
¥500
SO THIS IS JUST A GIFT FOR THE CROW.
THANKS TO HIM...
I DIDN'T KNOW THE CLEAR NIGHT SKY COULD BE SO BEAUTIFUL.
WOW! IT'S SO PRETTY.
TIME TO GET MASARU'S COIN BACK FROM THE CROW.
DON'T YOU WANT TO GET YOURS BACK, TOO?
NOPE.
IT LOOKS EVEN MORE BEAUTIFUL IN WINTER.
LOOK, OVER THERE IS SCORPIUS

HIRO, LET'S PLAY HERCULES.
NO, LILI. HIROMI WON'T PLAY. HE...
HIRO, COME HERE.
H... HEY.
SYURA-BAA, THE EVIL MASTER, IS HERE!
SURE...
...AS LONG AS I CAN BE SOMETHING OTHER THAN A MONSTER, OKAY?
WHAT?
PUNISHMENT
THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS I DON'T KNOW YET...

I GOT TO SEE HIRO SMILE.
THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS I DON'T KNOW.
SO MANY THINGS...
LILI?
I WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU



YOU TAUGHT ME SO MUCH...

About the bonus episode

I enjoy drawing kids. For some reason, I totally enjoyed drawing the corn, too. To tell you the truth, I also hated napping in kindergarten. I'll never figure out why I was told to sleep when I wasn't sleepy. When I told my mom about it, she said, "I had a hard time rocking you to sleep--even when you were just a baby." She ended up complaining about me. She even compared me to my sister and said, "Your sister wasn't like you. She was a great baby and never had any problem falling asleep." I wonder why my sister and I were so different. It must have something to do with natural temperament. Very strange!!! The key word in the bonus episode is "trust," which is also true in the first episode. The model of Sigura-baa is, well... a top secret. (Ha, ha!)

WHAT A TOTAL RIP-OFF!!
$425!
WHY DON'T YOU GET AN HONEST JOB AND SAVE STEADILY FOR A CHANGE?
TO MAKE $425, YOU NEED A JOB THAT PAYS $8.50 AN HOUR. 50 HOURS OF LABOR. NOT TO MENTION THE FACT THAT A SALARY OF $8.50 AN HOUR ISN'T EXACTLY EASY TO GET THESE DAYS, YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
HUH?
NO, NO.
I PICKED THE WRONG ONE.
OH, WELL.
I CAN'T DECIDE WHAT TO ORDER
I'D LIKE TO DRINK TO YOUR BEAUTY.
IO, THIS ELEGANT WINE IS DESIGNED FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU.
BUT IT LOOKS SO EXPENSIVE!
IT'S ONLY $425...
NO! I WANT TO GET A BIG CHUNK OF CHANGE AND EARN A LOT OF MONEY!
SO LET'S GET DOWN TO IT!
THIS ERASING JOB GIVES YOU 50 CENTS A PAGE. DOING 10 PAGES GIVES YOU FIVE BUCKS.
Such a position doesn't really exist!

TWO BUTTERFLIES FLEW INTO MY BAR, WHICH I BUILT TO MAKE MYSELF SOME MONEY.
HI!
MY NAME IS CHIRON.
I AM KNOWN AS KEN, THE SMOOTH TALKER AMONG THE ASTRAL SPIRITS.
Star Talk
THEY'RE HERE TO LOOK FOR SWEET WORDS FROM ME.
YOU HAVE BEAUTIFUL HAIR...
...HAIR THAT'S AS BEAUTIFUL AND DARK AS A BLACK PEARL.
OH BOY...
YOU GOOFBALL, CHIRON.
YOUR FACE CRACKS ME UP, AS ALWAYS...
AND WHAT DO YOU MEAN, BLACK PEARL?
YOU SOUND POSITIVELY GOOFY.

Coming Soon

Volume 4

What's your sign?!

Lili and Hiromi find a new fortunetelling place in their neighborhood. When Lili checks it out, she discovers her own dad having his fortune told! (The betrayal!) The owner, Zeus, invites Lili and the gang to stay for dinner, but then commands Lili to give up her Star Ring! Why?! The reason turns out to be even more ominous than she could have ever imagined. Later, Lili meets her nemesis, Sirius, for the first time...and is in for the shock of her life. When Lili turns to Hiromi for some much-needed support, sparks fly. Is Lili finally falling for Hiromi in the middle of all this chaos? Find out in Volume 4 of Zodiac P.I.!

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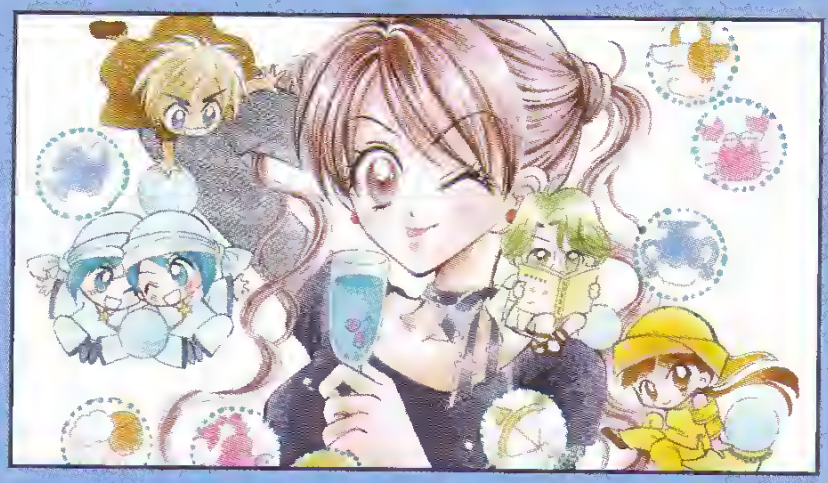
Lili is just like any other normal teenage girl—except she can foretell the future, as well as solve mysterious crimes! How? She's the Zodiac P.I., and she uses astrology to track down criminals! Using her alias "Spica," Lili must first solve a murder case involving twin sisters. After channeling the power of her Star Ring, the case becomes even more complicated when a demented doll becomes part of the evidence! Luckily, Lili's partner Hiromi is there to help her and save the day. But there's a kink in Lili and Hiromi's relationship: Why is Hiromi suddenly so upset about a love letter Lili received? Lili is certain that the answer to this, along with everything else, is in the stars!



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